

BAY AREA REPORTER

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1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019

Feds Get Tough With AIDS Vigilers

Protesters Charged With Felonies;
Over 200 Arrested So Far

by Allen White

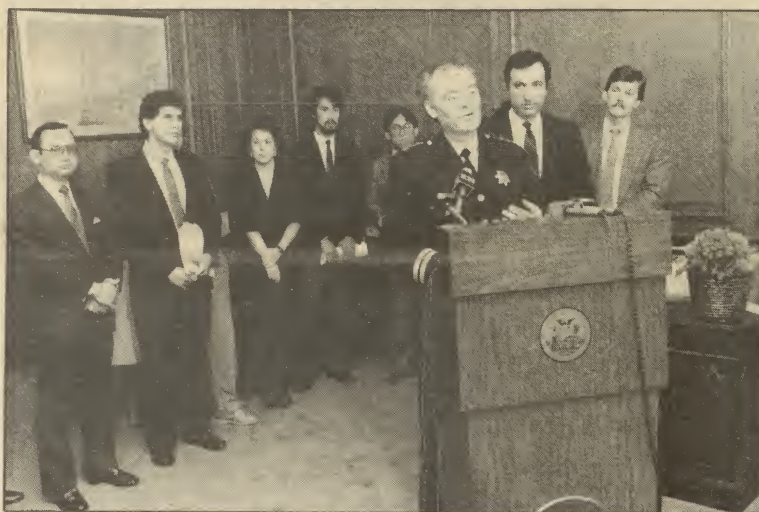
After more than 200 arrests at the AIDS/ARC Vigil site, federal authorities are taking a new direction. Earlier this month, four protesters were arrested and initially charged with a felony. This is the first time the Vigil arrests have been elevated from a misdemeanor charge. The four who were arrested later had the cases dismissed "with prejudice." This means they can later be arrested and prosecuted on the same charge.

(Continued on page 2)



Sally Gearhart addresses the demonstration at Castro and Market

(Photo: S. Savage)



S.F. Police Chief Frank Jordan addresses the press conference

(Photo: S. Savage)

Disneyland Stops Music Again

New Suit Seeks Punitive Damages For Preventing Gay Couple From Dancing

A new lawsuit has been filed against Disneyland in Orange County Superior Court on behalf of three gay men who allege that the amusement park discriminated against them when it barred them from same-sex dancing.

The suit asks for punitive damages from Disneyland because of its blatant disregard of an earlier ruling in a similar suit requiring it not to discriminate. In that suit, brought by Andrew Exler in 1984, the park was found to be in violation of California's Unruh Civil Rights Act, which prohibits arbitrary discrimination by business establishments on the basis of race, gender, marital status, creed, and sexual orientation.

The current suit alleges that Christopher Drake, Eric Hubert and Jeffrey Stabile, all part of a group outing to Disneyland in April, 1987, sponsored by the lesbian and gay student groups at the University of California and the California State University, had been dancing with male partners for nearly an hour to rock music.

When a ballad was played and the men began to slow-dance, they were approached by park security officials and told, in essence, "You're going to have to stop dancing. Touch dancing is reserved for heterosexual couples only."

When Stabile asked about the earlier lawsuit, he was told that

(Continued on page 2)

Today

Kopp charged with scapegoating gays on Olympics bid: Allen White has the story on page 4.

Achtenberg pins hopes on grassroots appeal: For a profile on the 16th Assembly District candidate, see page 12.

Get arrested, get tested? For the story on possible inmate AIDS testing, see page 14.

Presidential hopeful Jesse Jackson says his stance on gays hasn't hurt him: For the story, see page 17.

Porn star propels fans into fantasyland: For the Jeff Stryker story, see page 26.

Police to Pursue Hate Crimes

Investigative Procedures Set Up; Could Raise Criminal Penalties

by Ray O'Loughlin

Fag-bashers and others could find themselves in more trouble than they counted on, now that the San Francisco police are going to take hate crimes seriously. If police find that prejudice against sexual orientation, race, sex, religion or ethnic background is a factor in any crime, penalties could be higher. Malicious mischief could turn into felonious assault.

In announcing the new program March 18, Mayor Art Agnos said, "Hate crimes strike a double blow, first against the individual, then against the community."

Agnos hailed the plan as putting San Francisco "in a leadership position in confronting a problem that is haunting cities and communities across the United States."

According to Special Order 88-06, it is now the policy of the San Francisco Police Department "to take a proactive role to protect all citizens against prejudice-based conduct" and "to support vigorous prosecution of those who are apprehended for such criminal acts."

City police officers will soon be given special training on how to detect and investigate crimes motivated by prejudice. Statistics on such crimes will also now be kept and will become part of the official crime figures sent to the U.S. Department of Justice.

Randy Schell of Community United Against Violence (CUAV) was involved in shaping the program. He said it was badly needed. "It's an enormous problem in the city," said Schell.

He estimated that police "are seeing only one-quarter of the incidents that happen." CUAV reports 250 to 300 incidents a year of attacks on gays and lesbians alone.

"What we have to do is empower people to report crimes," said Schell, adding, "It'll be years before we have a good statistical analysis of the problem."

MORE EFFECTIVE RESPONSE

The new policy has three components: training for police, investigation for prosecution, and data compilation.

"We are moving from policy to practical implementation with these steps," said Agnos.

Under the new program, every police officer will be given sensitivity training on how to handle hate crimes. The Police Academy also will update its curriculum.

Police Chief Frank Jordan said that new training "will heighten the awareness of officers to hate-related crime." He said that the new procedures will enable police to look at incidents in greater depth. Hate crimes, said the chief, "can be subtle" and require greater investigation.

If prejudice is part of the crime—all police forms will have a box to be checked to indicate prejudice—charges can be raised from misdemeanor to felony status. A case of malicious mischief or vandalism, for example, would be treated more seriously if prejudice is shown to be the motivation.

According to the new policy, (Continued on page 16)

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Arrests

(Continued from page one)

Last Friday, March 18, thousands of people took to the streets to protest the use of United States troops in Honduras. The marchers made their way through the streets and almost succeeded in closing down Market Street as they marched from Castro to the Civic Center.

People at the AIDS/ARC Vigil, after seeing the Friday night protest, have renewed their plea for nonviolent action as arrests take place this week. They are emphatic in their hope that no property damage take place. These specific concerns are new and represent an increased sense that the Vigil protest, after more than two years, is at a point of becoming more militant and more confrontational.

The arrests have been taking place since early December. At that time, Federal Building security officers removed beds and chains from the doors of the site at the old Federal Building on the United Nations Plaza.

Members of the AIDS/ARC Vigil then chained themselves to the doors and had themselves arrested. On a regular basis, others have followed by being arrested. This has included elected public officials at the local as well as federal levels.

In the past the arrests have resulted only in citations and \$25 fines. It now appears that the federal government has decided to rethink its strategy.

One reason is that the protesters have become more aggressive and are now blocking entrance to all main doors to the old Federal Building, the procedure has been to chain themselves literally to the doors. A guard then has to come out and cut the chains. In the past it was still possible to enter the building. That strategy by the protesters now appears to be changing.

With the numerous arrests being made at the two San Francisco Federal Buildings in the past week, it is believed that tension is higher and that the patience of both federal officials as well as the protesters may be shorter.

Angela Davis, black activist, and others are planning to be arrested at noon this Friday at the Vigil site, which is in the United Nations Plaza in front of the old Federal Building. •

Disney

(Continued from page one)

the previous ruling applied only to that particular case.

Leroy Walker, cooperating attorney with Lambda Legal Defense Fund on the case, stated that "Disneyland's action is very unreasonable, cruel and humiliating, and has caused personal injury to our clients. It represents a violation of my client's privacy."

He went on to note, "Overall, it's not Disneyland's business to determine with whom its patrons can dance. We're simply demanding equal rights. You would think Disneyland would have learned its lesson after losing the 1984 suit."

"This kind of blatant disregard for a previous Superior Court decision is absolutely contemptuous," added Mickey J. Wheatley, Lambda's staff attorney. "This time we are seeking punitive damages so that companies will realize that when a



Nancy Walker was arrested at the AIDS Vigil in January (Photo: S. Savage)



The AIDS Action Pledge contingent (Photo: Rink)



Gay people marched down Market Street to say "no" to war (Photo: S. Savage)

court decision is handed down, there will be a price to pay if it is disobeyed."

The lawsuit seeks a court injunction to bar Disneyland from stopping dancing of whatever

type for all couples. It also seeks compensatory and punitive damages because the plaintiffs allege that Disneyland's violation of the law was "willful." Attorneys' fees are also being sought. •

Spring Means It's Time For the AIDS Bike-a-Thon!

Spring has arrived, and you know what that means. It means it's time to buy a new Easter outfit. But it's also time to register for the Fourth Annual AIDS Bike-a-Thon! The rider registration kickoff will begin Saturday, March 26, at noon at 18th and Castro Sts.

Once again Different Spokes, the gay and lesbian bicycling club, is organizing the most ambitious grassroots AIDS fundraiser in Northern California. At least 1,500 riders will take to the streets Saturday, May 14. Riders and their sponsors will choose from a list of 15 Bay Area beneficiaries. Once again, 100 percent of all pledge monies will go directly to the designated beneficiaries.

Produced entirely by volunteers, this unique event has grown from 65 riders in 1985 to more than 1,000 riders in 1987. In just

three years, cyclists have raised more than \$600,000. This year the goal is to raise \$500,000. This worthwhile event is a pleasure to ride and an important source of support for agencies involved in direct patient care.

The AIDS Bike-a-Thon is the only fundraiser which provides pledge dollars to service providers in San Francisco and six other Bay Area counties. In San Francisco, this includes AIDS Hospice/Coming Home Hospice, Project Open Hand, Godfather Fund, Shanti Project, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS), AIDS Health Project, and AIDS Emergency Fund. In Alameda County, the East Bay AIDS Assistance Fund and AIDS Project of the East Bay are eligible to receive donations, as is Marin AIDS Support Network in Marin County and Project Ellipse in

San Mateo County. Other eligible beneficiaries include Face to Face/Sonoma County AIDS Network, ARIS Project of Santa Clara County, and Contra Costa County AIDS Task Force.

With distances of 25 miles, 60 miles, and 100 miles in San Francisco and Marin counties, cyclists of all abilities can participate in this extraordinary event. To find out how you can be a part of the 1988 AIDS Bike-a-Thon, come down to the Different Spokes booth at 18th and Castro Sts. Saturday, March 26 (rider registration continues through May 2). Bring your new Easter bonnet/helmet and join in the revelry. Remember, we're riding for our community, our friends, and our lives!

For more information about the 1988 AIDS Bike-a-Thon, please call 771-0677.



Join the gang at noon March 26 at 18th and Castro for the Fourth Annual AIDS Bike-a-Thon rider registration kickoff

'Fools in Love' for Emergency Fund

Soprano Deborah Del Mastro and tenor Robert Wendell Hichborn will perform Broadway, jazz standards and Sondheim selections in a concert to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund on April Fool's Day, Friday, April 1, at the Community Music Center, 544 Capp St., at 7:30 p.m.

"Fools in Love" is another effort on behalf of the AIDS Emergency Fund by the generous entertainers in our community to make a direct contribution to the fight against AIDS.

Both Del Mastro and Hichborn have been featured in the "Musician's Holiday" series in Yosemite, appearing in *Anything Goes* and *My Fair Lady*. Hichborn was featured in last year's City Summer Opera production of *The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny*.

Tickets for this benefit performance can be purchased in advance by writing to 114 Steiner St., San Francisco, CA 94117, or by calling 621-6225. A minimum donation of \$10 is requested. ●

Lesbian Agenda Elects Board

Eight women have been elected to fill positions as members of the board of directors of the Lesbian Agenda for Action (LAFA) in an election held in January. Two board slots remain to be filled to bring the directorship of the organization to its full complement of ten. The eight members reflect the commitment of the organization to racial parity, and the two remaining positions are being held open until further racial parity can be met.

Founded in February 1987, the Lesbian Agenda for Action is dedicated to fostering the political visibility of lesbians. The organization held a successful political conference in November 1987, which attracted over 500 Bay Area lesbians, and sponsored a debate to hear the views of candidates for mayor in last year's election.

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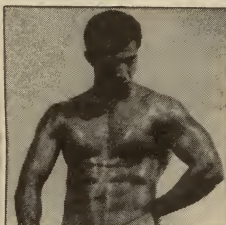
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Kopp Charged With Scapegoating Gays

Olympics Bid Has 'Flaws'; Would Cost City Money

by Allen White

The Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club has been threatened with legal action by State Sen. Quentin Kopp's gay aide Jack Davis, while members of the Board of Supervisors and Mayor Art Agnos' office charged Kopp with "scapegoating" the gay community for his "flawed" direction of the Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee.

Last week a letter was received by the Alice club from Jack Davis' attorney. It claimed that an Alice club flyer made a false statement about Davis. The flyer stated, "State Sen. Quentin Kopp led the charge against lesbians and gays. His aide, Jack Davis, threatened to work against responsible AIDS legislation if we fought the Olympics bid. We fought Kopp for our rights, now we will have to fight Kopp for our lives."

Davis' attorney said, "At no time did Jack Davis make a statement, either expressed or implied, to work against responsible AIDS legislation. In summary, the statement is completely false, exposes Mr. Davis to ridicule, and has a tendency to injure him in his occupation as chief of staff to State Sen. Quentin Kopp and as a campaign manager. This letter is formal demand for a retraction of those false statements pursuant to Section 48-A of California Civil Code."

Karen Norman, a lawyer and secretary of the Alice club, said, "There are several different issues. One, is Alice an appropriate publication under the civil code, and I think we could make an argument that it is not. Second, whether in fact it might be libelous, which we think it is not."

Norman said that in the next Alice newsletter they would republish what is in the flyer, the attorney's letter, and their own statement, which is that they stand by what they printed. The Bay Area Reporter has received a similar letter from Jack Davis' attorney, demanding a retraction for statements made in a B.A.R. story. Through the newspaper's attorney, Davis was advised that the paper stands by its story and will issue no retraction.

Karen Norman said, "I don't understand why Jack Davis or Quentin Kopp would go so far as to try and cover up something he has said by threatening a lawsuit. I think that Jack Davis has gotten out of control. Quentin Kopp should never allow him to make statements like that, express or implied. If it was with the senator's knowledge, then the senator is acting irresponsibly to the people he should be representing in this state."

Alice club president Ron Braithwaite said, "This is purely a tactic of political thuggery by intimidating us and threatening lawsuits. That isn't the way you do politics. I don't see where they think they can win by this type of tactics. Jack Davis was improper in trying to play politics with lesbian and gay civil rights issues and play politics with AIDS. It is all a matter of politics, but gay and lesbian people have to draw lines somewhere."

Larry Bush, an aide to Mayor Agnos, said this week, "There is no question the gay community is being scapegoated for broad deficiencies in the local committee's proposal."

Sup. Harry Britt commented, "We know by now that if they don't come, it will not be because of gay power, it will be because



When a picture is worth a thousand words . . . (Photo: Rink)

the bid is deficient. I would think it very difficult for the USOC to adopt our bid, because Quentin hasn't done his work well, and he is trying to blame that on the gay community."

"I don't think the Olympics were ever going to come to San Francisco," said Sup. Richard Hongisto. "I think, if they did, we wouldn't make money, we would lose money. I think it would be a very big drain on the treasury of the city government. I think it would require a tremendous effort on the part of the police department to maintain security and to handle all kinds of problems that would attend this. There are many down sides of this, and all of these things are being ignored."

The flaws in the bid appear to be numerous. "There are the human rights concerns," said Bush, "but it doesn't stop there. San Francisco only has eight of the 31 events. A number of locations in San Francisco were not included in the bid proposal, such as Kezar Stadium or Moscone Center. \$86 million will be pumped into sports facilities in the area, but none of it will go to San Francisco."

In fact, according to Bush, "There is a contract to be signed by the mayor of the bid city, which is San Francisco. But they have not shown us what this contract would be or what the legal or fiscal responsibilities for the city would be."

He added, "There are no provisions to reimburse San Francisco for its out-of-pocket expenses for increased Muni, police, and other costs, which would run to the tens of millions of dollars. There was such a reimbursement plan for Los Angeles when they hosted the games."

"There is no proposal in this plan for an Olympics arts festival. Los Angeles had one which made \$16 million for the city. The International Olympic Committee specifically requested information about what type of arts festival was being put on," said Bush.

It has also been learned that

Mayor Art Agnos was denied the opportunity to speak to the Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee by its chair, Quentin Kopp. "Some members of BASOC requested the mayor come and address them on the Olympics issues," said Bush. "The mayor was willing to do that, but the chairman of BASOC was unwilling to invite the mayor, and so the mayor has not had the opportunity to discuss the issues with BASOC. There are a number of issues which would have been included had this mayor been invited to participate in shaping this proposal."

Not only was Agnos kept from BASOC, former Mayor Dianne Feinstein was also kept apart from the effort. Bush noted that "Part of the problem is that San Francisco's bid got off to a wrong foot more than a year ago. The USOC wrote to Mayor Feinstein and asked if she would be interested in a bid, and then Feinstein contacted other mayors to ask their thoughts. Then Kopp contacted the USOC independently of the mayor. In other cities, the bid is coming directly from the mayors, who have designated specific groups to put the bid together. In San Francisco's case, the normal procedure was not followed because of Sen. Kopp's strong interest in being personally in charge. Therefore, the mayor of San Francisco was left out of the process."

Sup. Britt summarized that "What is really happening is that politicians are ganging up on Art Agnos. These are all people who did not support Art. These people are all people of principle on a very controversial issue, and they are taking advantage of that in a way that is very, very offensive to me."

Speaking of Jack Davis' role, Braithwaite said, "I don't think he is committed to those issues as he is to his own empowerment. As a result, he is willing to play politics with our civil rights. He is willing to trade them away, and that I don't think is acceptable. That is where Jack Davis and I really disagree on a political approach."

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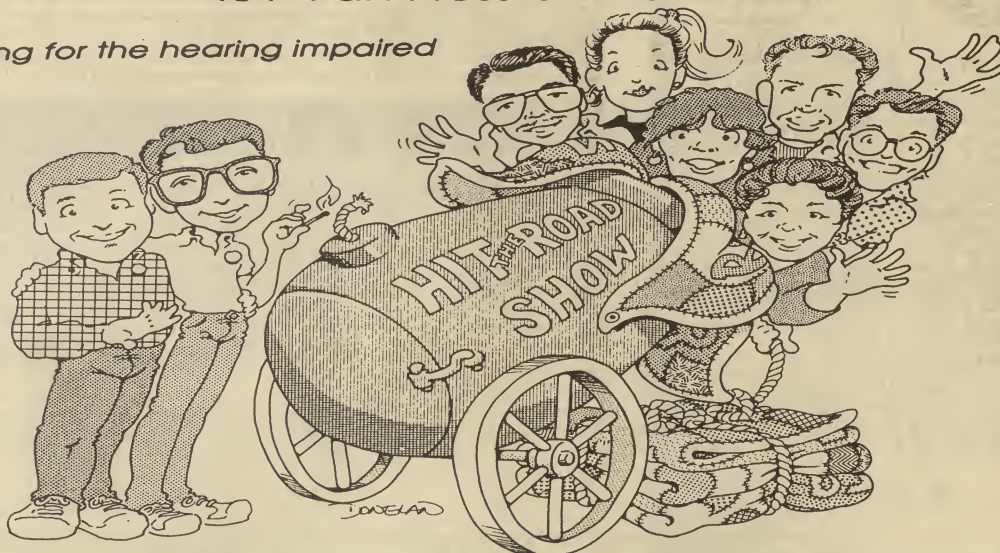
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EXECUTIVE & EDITORIAL OFFICES:
1528 15th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
TELEPHONES:
(415) 861-5019/861-7230

PUBLISHER:
Bob Ross

NEWS EDITOR:
Ray O'Loughlin

FEATURES EDITOR:
Will Snyder

FINE ARTS EDITOR:
George Heymont

POLITICAL EDITOR:
Wayne Friday

OFFICE MANAGER:
Tony Lindsey

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING:
Ann S. West

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR:
Dianne Gregory

CAMERA:
Michael Jay Goldberg

PRODUCTION ARTIST:
Richard Burt

TYPESETTING:
Robert Triptow, Chal Cochran

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS:
James Dusch, Scott Martin,
Photo Graphics/Darlene,
Robert Puzan, Rink,
Steve Savage

CARTOONISTS:
David Brady, Frisch

AUDITOR/ACCOUNTANT:
Robert J. Dern, C.P.A.

CONTRIBUTORS:

Joseph Bean, Philip Campbell,
Gregory Douthwaite, Wayne
Friday, Mark Friese, Hal Herkenhoff,
Wayne Herriford, George Heymont,
Michael Hippler, Larry Hogue,
Frank J. Howell, John Karr,
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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Achtenberg for Assembly

San Francisco is a patchwork of minorities, and the vitality and sophistication of our city's politics come from the ever-changing coalitions that come together at election time to work for candidates and issues.

In San Francisco, political clubs wheel and deal and assemble balanced slates of candidates who represent ethnic groups seeking their fair share of power. The idea is to avoid the head-on competition that usually lets well-financed, status quo candidates sneak through to victory. Cooperation and cross-endorsements among the minorities give all a better chance to share power. The city's gay Democratic clubs have always encouraged gay voters to support black, Hispanic, Asian and women candidates and always have supported issues critical to other communities. Bilingual education, bilingual voting, affirmative action, comparable worth, affordable housing, childcare, after-school recreation have all received large pluralities in gay voting precincts.

The gay and lesbian community is one of the San Francisco Democratic Party's most loyal and dependable constituencies. We have consistently provided more money, workers, brains, sweat and votes than any other group in town. We've provided the margin of victory for Democratic candidates and progressive propositions in more than one close election. In short, we gays and lesbians are there when we're needed.

This year our community has many survival issues on the legislative agenda in Sacramento and on the ballot in June and November. Our lives are literally at stake, and our right-wing governor and his reactionary allies in the state Legislature offer nothing but hysteria, ignorance and oppression in response to our crisis.

More than ever before, we need intelligent, informed and forceful representation as decisions about our health and human rights are being made in Sacramento. When our destiny is on the bargaining table, we need an articulate, aggressive advocate who we can trust not to sell us out—as so many of our straight "friends" so often do when the real crunch is on.

This is why those of us who live in the 16th Assembly District *must* get to the voting booth on April 12 and vote for Roberta Achtenberg for the state Assembly.

San Francisco's political establishment has never willingly given us power. It is political history that they tried to stop Harvey Milk. They tried to stop Harry Britt, and now they are trying to stop us again. The gay and lesbian community has always had to fight for what is rightfully ours. We've consistently had to confront those power brokers who would

rather have us slip quietly back into the closet.

Roberta Achtenberg is now well known outside our community, but other members of the progressive coalition are not exactly stampeding to support her. Achtenberg's candidacy needs an extra push from San Francisco's lesbians and gay men on April 12 to establish her—and us—as a force to be reckoned with. The exciting part of all this is that Achtenberg is exactly the kind of new leader our community should encourage. She's a brilliant civil rights lawyer with many important victories in AIDS discrimination, employment discrimination, child custody, and lesbian and gay rights cases to her credit.

The directing attorney of the Lesbian Rights Project, Roberta is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate and the author of the definitive textbook on gay and lesbian rights, used in law schools across the country. She also has lectured extensively in colleges and law schools and for a time served as a law school dean. She is a director of United Way and has played an important role in expanding funding to gay and lesbian social agencies. Roberta and her life partner, Mary Morgan, presiding judge of San Francisco Municipal Court, are role models of which all lesbian and gay people can be proud.

While we're being told that Roberta's opponent is experienced in pulling all the levers and pushing all the buttons of power and that he will have tremendous influence in Sacramento from the very beginning, that in itself is exactly what his problem is. While he was in office, John Burton went from a progressive crusader to a grumpy, inaccessible and inattentive placeholder. Complaining of "burnout" and ambivalence, he compiled one of the worst attendance records in the U.S. Congress.

It is no secret that the "old boy" network in Sacramento would be much more comfortable with Burton than they would having some uppity dyke sitting across the table from them. But if we take the time to get out and vote for Roberta Achtenberg April 12, the Sacramento gang will no longer be able to ignore our issues. They will be forced to deal with them.

It will take only a few minutes to vote on April 12. In Roberta Achtenberg we have a talented and able candidate. Politicos and power brokers will be watching to see how seriously they have to listen to us and our issues. A victory for Achtenberg will not only give us a top-notch Assembly member, it will serve notice as well that, when we feel pushed, we can push back.

We proudly endorse Roberta Achtenberg for Assembly and urge you to join us in voting for her on April 12.

OPINION

Think Twice About HIV Test

by Walt Odets

Project Inform describes itself as an organization "formed to meet a need for expanded AIDS/ARC treatment information." It is indeed doing that job, and doing it, I think, quite well. PI's discussion of the general evaluation of treatments, as well as information provided about specific treatments, seems impressive and authoritative to me.

But Project Inform, contrary to its stated purpose of informing the community about treatment options, is doing considerably more than that—it is promoting two very controversial positions which have nothing to do with providing treatment information. The first is the recommendation that everyone take the HIV antibody test; and the second, by implication, is that people who test positive should "buy time" by seeking treatment.

PI generally suggests that people should "consider" treatment—if it is not one's intent to treat an antibody-positive condition, why get tested? This recommendation presents a controversial position, not information. I think they are recommendations which should be more explicitly discussed so that people are able to make their own decisions.

The PI newsletter states that arguments against testing "are either political or psychological responses to a medical problem... What's too often overlooked is the need to make a medical response to the medical problem."

I would say that this is not a medical problem, either—it is a *human* problem, and our objectives should not be to provide the best possible medical treatment, but rather the longest life of the best possible quality. Medicine has too long provided the longest possible life of any quality the patient will put up with. Medical treatments often ruin the quality of life for patients, even while prolonging it slightly.

I have had four close friends die in the last five years, and the quality of life for all four was most damaged by the treatments themselves. The last years of life for all four would have been much better, though probably slightly shorter, without the suffering induced by the medical treatments themselves.

The newsletter objects to the community wasting its time "arguing about the politics and stress of testing." But the stress of a positive

test result is a *very* serious matter—the psychological stress, anxiety, and depression which it can induce can be really unmanageable for some. Project Inform's statement that "Psychological complications of testing can be solved by counseling" is glib and inadequate. Psychological counseling clearly has significant limitations. The possible psychological suffering in response to a positive test is surely at least a consideration in making a decision about the *human* problem of AIDS.

Despite Project Inform's desire to separate medical from psychological issues, there is a huge body of evidence in the medical and psychological literature that psychological and medical conditions are related. Depression and anxiety can make one's health worse. Thus the benefit of any anti-viral treatment must be balanced against the possibly negative impact of the psychological condition. It is certain *possible* that, for some, their *physical* as well as psychological health would be better served by not knowing about an antibody-positive condition—even where the knowledge of a positive condition prompted medical treatment.

The PI newsletter states that "failure to test and, if appropriate, begin early treatment almost certainly makes things worse... All treatments are less effective at later stages of the illness." This point is really at the crux of the decision to test. Unfortunately, *all* present treatments are speculative at best.

This is not presently an illness against which early treatment offers serious hope, even if that early treatment is slightly better than later treatment. PI's general discussion of the decision to treat is quite unclear about this point and has left many with whom I have spoken quite impressed with the treatability of an antibody-positive condition.

In closing, I would like to be absolutely clear that I am not recommending against antibody testing. I am only suggesting that people make their own decisions prepared with as much information, insight and introspection as they can muster. Project Inform, for all its obviously good intentions and really good work, seems to me to have seriously compromised its utility and credibility by taking what amounts to a political position—despite its avowed rejection of political intrusions on the sad issue of AIDS.

San Jose Grows Up!

★ The recently initiated T-dances on Sunday afternoons by the Club St. John in San Jose have certainly added to the maturity of the gay scene in the South Bay. When I saw that gorgeous video star/singer Jim Bentley perform down to his jock strap, I thought to myself: "Jon will never top this."

And then when he held the wet jock shorts contest with those five beautiful men, I thought to myself: "Jon will ever top this."

But when Rudy De Lamor, an internationally acclaimed pianist/humorist performed for three nights recently to a packed house and standing ovations, I thought to myself: "Jon will never top this."

Well, Jon and the staff of Club St. John, you have helped San Jose mature into a top notch showcase for our community. Your club is unique and beautiful and the clientele could easily fit into any issue of Playgirl magazine, but the entertainment is outstanding. We'll be looking forward to the upcoming Mr. Drummer San Jose contest. I wonder if I'll think: "Jon will never top this?"

Congratulations and thanks from me and my friends who now have a place to be really proud of and which we can "show off" to our visiting friends and relatives... and see Jon, I didn't take a word of credit!

Dean Tomich
San Jose

End All Discrimination

★ SEIU Local 250 Hospital and Healthcare Workers Union is in contract negotiations with Affiliated Hospitals of San Francisco, a group of seven private hospitals: St. Francis, St. Mary's, Children's, Marshale, Pacific-Presbyterian, Mt. Zion, and Seton.

Local 250 represents 1,800 nursing, technical, housekeeping, and dietary workers at these facilities and the current contract expires April 30. Our union is proposing language changes in our contract's no-discrimination clause which would extend protection to members on the basis of physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, and religion. (The contract already includes sexual orientation.)

Management rejected this proposal on March 7, claiming these hospitals don't discriminate and maintaining that governmental agencies are adequate to deal with any discrimination complaints.

But San Francisco hospital workers rejected this reasoning—reasoning which is identical to management's initial rejection of the union's sexual orientation proposal in the 1985 contract negotiations—until the union forced management to back down.

The union is clear that if the hospitals don't discriminate then they should include these categories in the contract's no-discrimination section. Furthermore, hospital workers who take care of AIDS and ARC patients are well aware of the discrimination AIDS patients endure, even in San Francisco, and we want protection from that discrimination ourselves.

And finally, why should contractually-protected workers go to conservative, bureaucratic governmental agencies to file a complaint when the grievance and arbitration procedure already part of our contract can and should be used for the quickest and fairest resolution of worksite discrimination problems?

Members find it ironic as well that hospitals which have religious ties are not willing to ensure that workers are protected on the basis of our religion.

The union's position remains firm although management continues to reject our concerns. Therefore, we need the community's help to persuade these hospitals to guarantee contractually an end to all discrimination.

Thank you for your help.

John Mehring
Local 250 AIDS Education Committee
San Francisco

Confusion

★ John C. Dvorak's column in the March 11 S.F. Examiner ends with this not so surprising line: "We all suffer financially if the supervisors don't get their priorities straight."

What a pun! Or is Mr. Dvorak serious when he calls Doris Ward, Harry Britt, et al bigots? How have these supervisors shown intolerance? The USOC (not the IOC as stated by Mr. Dvorak) has not singled out for court challenge other uses of its (USOC's) trademark. Notably excluded from USOC censure are the "Rat Olympics" and "Chili Olympics."

Legally, the idea behind protecting trademarks is to not allow another entity to trade on the established reputation of the trademark holder, which means the use of the word (trademark) would cause confu-

sion in the public's mind. The USOC's decision to prohibit the use of "Gay Olympics" is not based on any confusion between the national Olympics committee and the Gay Games, but on prejudice, suspicion and paranoia.

Just as "Special Olympics" gives pride to the disabled who participate, the "Gay Olympic Games" are a means whereby gay athletes and the public can overcome these prejudices, phobias, and stereotypes, of which the most consistent stereotype is "queers are the limp-wristed nannies who can't run and prefer petit point to playing ball."

How did the supervisors' who voted for the approved plan do an injustice to the majority (especially if the majority is seen as parochial)? On the contrary, the Gay Games are not parochial, participants come from all over the globe and in 1990 The Games will be hosted by Vancouver, British Columbia, not by San Francisco, as implied by Mr. Dvorak when he states the games are "just another local event."

Finally, Mr. Dvorak writes that the IOC's Olympics will benefit the Bay Area's economy and therefore gays should grin and bear it. This sounds like the logic that says black South Africans should stop complaining about apartheid and work to create a prosperous nation whether or not they can wholly participate.

Paul Q. Martin
San Francisco

How Dare You?

★ I had the misfortune to be listening to KNBR's sports talk show last Friday, March 11. At 11:15 p.m., Dave Newhouse, the announcer, led a discussion on San Francisco's hopeless Olympic bid. At that time, Dave said, "How dare the gay community place its rights over the rights of the entire area." He continued with similarly bigoted remarks for several minutes.

I am outraged that KNBR carried such a preacher of hatred over the public airwaves. I suggest that people of conscience should bypass that station until KNBR attempts to make some sort of amends. People such as Dave Newhouse belong in the KKK, not in San Francisco.

Tony Jasinski
San Francisco

Alternative to Testing

★ Like many others, I have been reluctant to be tested for HIV until the effectiveness of a treatment has been demonstrated. I worry that a positive test result would have a seriously detrimental impact on my emotional well-being and thus, my physical health, as well. Furthermore, since I already practice safe sex, test results would not alter my sexual behavior.

Instead, I have begun monitoring my T-cell ratio with the following rationale: If I did, indeed, test positive, it would be inappropriate to start taking any medication unless and until my T-cell ratio began to suggest a worsening of my immunological status.

Thus, knowing that one has tested positive is actually useless and disturbing information unless T-cell counts are also done. If my regularly monitored T-cell ratio indicates reduced immunity at some point, then an HIV test would be appropriate to determine if the AIDS virus is present and presumably responsible.

I was able to obtain a blood test for my T-cell ratio without anxiety, and the results were normal. If I have been infected by HIV, it has not yet affected my immunological system, and I would just as soon not know, at least until I feel there is something of value to do about it.

James Sorrells
Guernville, CA

Hollow Hypocrisy

★ I would like to let Nancy Reagan know that if she feels even casual users of marijuana are accomplices to murder, then she and her husband are by the same token accomplices to the murder of thousands of people with AIDS by their inaction over this issue.

If she wants to wash this blood off her hands she needs to take the kind of action over AIDS that she does over drugs, and advocate a federal spending program worthy of a national disaster. If Liz Taylor can stand up and be counted, what kind of coward are you, Mrs. Reagan.

These deaths are on your hands and your husband's memory will be indelibly linked with this disease and his malicious inaction over it.

Stand up and be counted Mrs. Reagan, or your words on drugs are simply hollow hypocrisy.

Richard Bolingbroke
San Francisco

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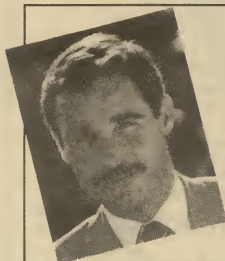
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WELCOME

Welcome

The following letter was sent to Lou/Rocky Rockwood, President, Cheaters Motor Club.

★ Dear Mr. Rockwood,

It has come to our attention that your club is unhappy with a decision that was made by our organization in regards to a rental request. We are very concerned about the fact that your club feels that the decision was sexist and/or homophobic. We were informed by our former staff member, Dr. Mimi Poinsett, that the decision not to rent the facility to your club was based on the fact that you planned to have amplified live music.

Unfortunately, due to complaints from neighbors, our dance hall permit does not allow us to have amplified live music in the building. It took us many years to obtain a dance hall permit and the city is very strict with us concerning noise. We have had to refuse use of the facility to many groups over this issue.

We would like to apologize if the reason for not renting to your club was not clear to you or if it was conveyed in a manner that was offensive to you. Over the years the Women's Building has actively solicited the business and the support of the gay men's community and we will continue to do so in the future. Please know that we are within the confines of city ordinances and not within the confines of sexism and homophobia. To the extent that our dance hall permit will allow, your club has always been and will continue to be more than welcome in our building.

Deb Riley, Building Coordinator
San Francisco Women's Building

Not A Transvestite

★ I found Will Snyder's obituary of Divine informative but I can't agree with his statements that "Divine had always played transvestites in the movies," and "In 1972, Divine played a transvestite who..."

I've only seen three of Divine's films, but from those and from what I've read, the actor always played "women" not transvestites, which is another kettle of fish (if you'll excuse the expression).

Bob Stanford
North Hollywood, CA

Right Field

The following letter was sent to Warren Hinckle at the Examiner:

★ Dear Mr. Hinckle:

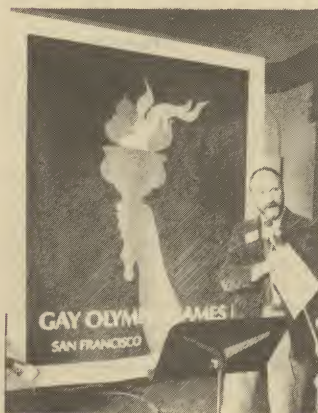
I just read your column, "The town is crumbling" (March 9) It's been little more than two months since Mayor Agnos' inauguration and for you the honeymoon is over. More to the point, it seems you've asked for an annulment.

Well, what can I say? Your bitter analysis of current city affairs is way out in left field—or is that right field? Because Art Agnos supports Sup. Britt's Olympic resolution, he's a commie?

The bottom line is: as long as there are the Senior Olympics, the Special Olympics, the International Police Olympics, the Eskimo Indian Olympics, the Xerox Olympics, the Dog Olympics, the Rat Olympics and even the Wacky Olympics, gays should be able to have their own Olympics.

The issue is the United States Olympic Committee's bigotry and hypocrisy. The struggle for equal treatment and human dignity will go on, Warren, with or without you.

Raymond Tobler
San Francisco



Abusive Smoke

★ Sunday I went to the AIDS Emergency Fund kickoff dinner to honor special people in the San Francisco Community.

My eyes were enjoying how beautiful was the former CMC Carnival Hall which is now the California Culinary Academy. Buffet tables contained assorted pate, salads, meats and fish, all exuding wonderful aromas. Tables were set with fragrant flowers mingling with the marvelous scents of the women and men. Every kind of dessert and beverage completed this superb dinner.

When the entertainment began, cigarettes were lit throughout the hall. Shortly, smoke filled this huge room even though many people have experienced a bout with pneumocystis pneumonia.

Smoking is so detrimental to everyone's lungs and heart that it seems bizarre that intelligent humans still practice this stupid and dangerous habit. Unpolluted lungs are one of our defenses against opportunistic diseases.

I would hope that not only in future gatherings, but in all establishments in which we congregate we would be more aware of the environment and give greater consideration to the special needs of the sensitive members of our community.

George Ash
San Francisco

"Friends"

★ I am certain at election time we will all remember Supervisors Molinari, Hsieh, Kennedy and Maher, the four who put gaybashing on the ballot. We need not wait until then however. I remember waiting in the hot sun at the Gay Parade with Federal Lesbians and Gays for hours as we watched some of these same folks ride by at the front of the parade. Hopefully the Parade committee will deny these "friends" a spot in the parade.

Okay, if we must consider first amendment rights and we don't deny them a spot, let's put them where they belong—after the horses.

John-Michael Olexy
San Francisco

NAMBLA's Defense

The following was sent to the S.F. Chronicle:

★ Your article claiming that a man sentenced to prison for having had sex with boys may have also given them AIDS (March 7) could prove more harmful to young people than the sex you vilify at such length.

First, you incorrectly link James White, whom you accuse of recklessly spreading AIDS, with the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA), offering no proof beyond the McCarthyesque allegations of police. White has never been a member of NAMBLA, nor has NAMBLA published anything written by him as you also allege. But even if he were, NAMBLA is no more responsible for an individual's conduct than are the Boy Scouts or the Roman Catholic Church, both of which have had numerous leaders accused of violating age-of-consent laws.

Second, NAMBLA is not a "pedophile network" as you claim, but is instead a law-abiding civil rights/educational group that has been holding open public meetings for years in cities across the U.S.

Third, far from promoting abuse, as you assert, we are against abuse of any kind. We oppose unwanted sex, corporal punishment, and forced military service, among other insults to young people's rights.

Fourth, as for desiring abolition of age-of-consent laws, we do, since these laws do not protect children but rather are ineffective and in many cases actually cause harm. Instead, children need effective weapons against the assaults of adults.

You omit the fact that we have advocated for years the real empowerment of youth through full civil rights—rights that now belong only to adults.

But your omission of NAMBLA's work in the fight against AIDS is inexcusable. Far from espousing irresponsible conduct—as your article implies—we have fought AIDS with information about risky drug use, as well as unsafe sex practices.

Your fear-mongering story about children, sex, and AIDS could very well result in driving boys and men further underground—away from the information they need to hear if they are to protect themselves from unsafe sex practices.

Arnold Schoen
for NAMBLA, San Francisco

Party Bosses Are Worried

When the Illinois primary gave most of its delegates to "favorite son" Sen. Paul Simon, the Democratic presidential question was left even more muddled. National Democratic leaders aren't happy. It seems that party chair Paul Kirk and others are wringing their hands because they fear that the exhausting primary system has failed to produce a nominee before the Atlanta national convention. That, they say, isn't "healthy."

Fearing that Democrats will go into the July convention with no winner determined, Kirk, New York Gov. Mario Cuomo, and other Democratic "leaders" have decided that they will get together shortly after the Pennsylvania primary (April 26) and try to settle on the party's standard-bearer. There is something about a "brokered" convention that scares Kirk and Company. Heaven forbid they should let the delegates to the convention choose a candidate. Party bosses aren't used to letting things happen that way.

What is so wrong with a brokered convention? It seems to me that a wide open convention would only serve to strengthen the party. Why not let Jesse Jackson, Dick Gephardt, Paul Simon, or any of the other candidates who have worked for these delegates, have some say at a "brokered" convention?

Kirk would have us believe that a "brokered" convention would only serve to help the Republicans in the general election. Not so. If the Democratic Party, after having exhausted countless state primaries and caucuses, hasn't decided on the nominee, I think it would actually help strengthen the party by resolving it publicly. Isn't that what democracy is all about? So what if the television viewing public gets to observe all the trade-offs and favors that go into getting the necessary votes?

It's healthy, and a nomination that is decided by delegates at an open convention can only help the party beat George Bush and the Republicans in November.

Elsewhere in this edition I list the reasons for electing Roberta Achtenberg to the Assembly next month, but I have to wonder at times who is running her campaign? Achtenberg and a number of her campaign people spent precious time, energy, and money in Palm Springs over the past weekend attempting to block the endorsement of opponent John Burton at the Democratic state convention, an endorsement that means very little in the 16th District. For what it is worth, incidentally, the endorsement of Burton was blocked on a technicality.

What was John Burton doing while Achtenberg and aides were fighting the cause in Palm Springs all weekend? He was in San Francisco attending numerous house parties and meeting dozens of 16th District voters.

Jesse Jackson and Pat Robertson were both in the Bay Area over the weekend courting voters. Jackson drew thousands at appearances in Pittsburg and Oakland, while Robertson lost the coveted endorsement of the far-right California Republican Assembly to GOP Front-runner George Bush.

Some politico's are saying that "political payback" was the reason that someone snitched on Chinese powerhouse Rose Pak to the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Pak, who has been known to boast of her power with City Hall bigshots, apparently has as many enemies as she does friends. Some are now saying that her troubles have only begun.

Springs gave its endorsement to Contra Costa Sup. Sunne McPeak in her bid to unseat Democratic State Sen. Daniel Boatwright. The senator, no friend of gays, has often drawn the ire of gay and lesbian activists and many of them have already signed on with the McPeak campaign in the East Bay.

In Campbell, Ohio, Municipal Court Judge Joseph Kolmacic ordered AIDS patient Matthew Alston, 23, who pleaded guilty to theft and attempted breaking and entering, to leave the state. "It's my job to send people to jail if warranted. The problem is that he has AIDS and nobody wanted to touch him," the judge said.

Louise Renne apparently still has a campaign deficit from her disastrous mayoralty campaign, and I guess it seems only fair that Mayor Art Agnos serves as 'Honorary Chair' of yet another party to help Louise erase the debt. This one is April 12 at the Fairmont (only \$250 per person, and call 788-4744 if you simply must have a ticket).

Speaking of fundraisers, Jerry Berg, James Hormel, Anne Jennings, Melinda Griffith and Amy Rennert invite you to a reception at Berg's home for their Assembly candidate, Roberta Achtenberg on Tuesday, March 29; wine, hors d'oeuvres, 5:30-7:30; \$200 asked for this one; call 391-8205 for info.

The conservative New York Post ran a story last week under the headline, "Tax \$\$ Paying For Men in Drag," saying that the New York State Council on the Arts spent some \$100,000 in the last few years funding projects on transvestism, lesbianism and homosexuality. One project, sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Fund for Human Dignity, was a photo exhibition and lecture series to encourage public acceptance of "individuals who have abandoned the constraints of sexually stereotyped male dress to find more freedom of personal expression in the dress of women" (?).

District Attorney Arlo Smith will address next Tuesday's (March 29, 2 p.m.) Tavern Guild meeting at Ginger's, Too on Sixth Street.

More and more gay and lesbian voters are telling me they find little to get excited about in a choice between presidential candidates Michael Dukakis and George Bush (must it always be the lesser of the evils?).

Though he told San Francisco friends last week that he would not run for governor again, Jerry Brown, in an interview in next month's Life magazine says he is thinking of returning to another political career.

One of my favorite people, Carole Migden, will be honored by the board of directors of Operation Concern with a party by inviting Carole's many friends and admirers to OC's office at 1853 Market St., 5-7 p.m.

next Thursday, March 31. Carole Migden leaves Operation Concern, having served as its executive director for the past eight years. I will see you there.

Former Sup. Lee Dolson kicking off his campaign to return to the board at a party April 5 at The Iron Horse (19 Maiden Lane, 5:30-7:30 p.m.).

City Hall observers are saying Sup. Willie Kennedy made some unnecessary enemies with her stupid comments during Monday's board debate on the salary freeze for city workers (but no one ever accused Kennedy of being a brain surgeon anyway, did they?).

According to the Examiner's Rob Morse, those who are asking the U.S. Olympics Committee to stop discriminating against gays have somehow "overdosed on weirdness." I guess I always knew that Morse, who has been passing as a friend for the past couple of years, would one day show his true colors.

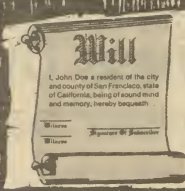
Accusing the "gay politicos" of wanting the Olympics Committee to "kiss their butts" and suggesting that gays are "totally involved and willing to carry a grudge beyond the bitter end" means what, Mr. Morse? Willing to carry the grudge for Tom Waddell, who while dying, was slapped with a lien on his home? Is that maybe a reasonable grudge? No, it's just the "kooks" (Morse's word, not mine) raising hell again.

If the word "gay" had been substituted by the word Black, Asian, Hispanic, or Jewish, would you still be calling them "totally involved" and grudgeful? Not likely. Indeed, if any one of those words were there in the place of "Gay" Olympics you and others like you would have brought the U.S. Olympics Committee to its knees. Gays and lesbians are not asking anyone to "kiss their butts" as you put it, only that no one kick ours. It is people who write columns like Rob Morse's who we have to be nervous about. Indeed, "Lyndon LaRouche couldn't have done it better."

Doctors Merv Silverman, Marcus Conant, Paul Volberding, and David Werdegare are among the health professionals hosting a reception April 7 to support the AIDS Initiative Committee to defeat Prop. 69, the LaRouche Initiative, and to pass the AIDS Research Tax Credit Initiative. It's being held at Park Hill, 355 Buena Vista Ave. East, 6-8:30 p.m., wine, hors d'oeuvres, etc., \$50 donation asked, and this is the best of causes; 621-6164 for info.

If you live in Sausalito, give your vote on April 12 to a young man who is running for Council—Attilio Grillo—definitely the most qualified of the council candidates in that city's upcoming election.

A personal note to "J. Reilly" who wrote the letter telling of his "disgust" at what he called my KGO-TV remarks "denouncing Harry Britt and his Olympics resolution." I don't know who you were watching, Mr. Reilly, but I haven't been on KGO for a couple of years. And if you can read, you might learn that I support Britt's demands. (Hell, why do I even pay attention to someone who refuses to sign his full name?)



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USF

No Sluggishness Over Rights

State to Honor 'Bisexual Pervert'; Good Taste at Issue

by Dennis McMillan

The state Assembly, settling yet another hard issue for California, recently voted 37 to 32 in favor of not honoring the abalone as California's official marine mollusk, while the banana slug had to settle for official land mollusk. This will allow the banana slug to possibly take the coveted title of state mollusk all for itself.

For those uneducated in the wonderful world of gastropods, a definition may be helpful. The gastropod is in the scientific class of mollusks with a uni-valve shell or without shell at all, usually having a distinct head bearing sensory organs. A mollusk is in the scientific phylum of invertebrate animals with a soft, unsegmented body, usually enclosed in a shell.

Now that the scientific aspect of the story is out of the way, we

are free to move on to the emotional perspective.

According to the San Francisco Chronicle, Assemblyman Trice Harvey (R-Bakersfield) has slandered the good name of the banana slug (which, incidentally, is *Ariolimax columbianus*) for its unorthodox sexual habits. "The banana slug is a bisexual pervert and tastes yucky; the abalone is straight and tastes good," said Harvey.

Whether or not the abalone

and slug should share state molluskular titles is not the issue, in this reporter's opinion. It is the flagrant anti-gay sentiment that must needs be nipped in the bud (or sensory organ-bearing head, as they case may be).

The NCMRA (National Gay Mollusk Rights Association) has taken the case into its hands (since mollusks can't take anything into their hands) and offers arguments in favor of *Ariolimax*.

This follows close on the heels (uni-valves?) of NCMRA's precedent-establishing suit on the right of a mollusk to openly engage in sexual activity with the gender of its choice—its own. The implications of such a suit mean that now, finally, the abalone can come out of its closet (or Davy Jones' locker) and be just as gay as its sluggish brother, without fear of harassment or a bad name in scientific journals.

The director of NCMRA (who wishes to remain anonymous for shellfish reasons) is not as optimistic about the future of the domestic gastropodners bill. "It would seem the state will allow the minority phylum to have same-sex sex, but not receive the same rights as a married mollusk is now entitled to," commented the director.

Heated arguments came from both the slug and the abalone allies. The slug people vehemently argue that a gay slug would naturally have to have much more taste than any straight abalone. The abalone proponents offer the lovely, mother-of-pearl interior decor as proof of the marine mollusk's superior taste.

In a caucus to be held in the near future, Assemblyman Byron Sher (D-Palo Alto) is expected to press for the slug vote.

Readers and voters alike would be encouraged to consider that, after all, the banana slug is the official mascot of UC Santa Cruz.

Stated the director of NCMRA, "A vote for the slug will be a tremendous victory for the gay and bi uni-valve community. Today the mollusks—tomorrow the mammals!"



Mike Hippler

Adrift in a Sea of Confusion

Life, it seems, gets more difficult all the time, especially for people with AIDS or ARC. There are too many choices to be made. Finding out you have the disease is hard enough. Figuring out what to do about it is another matter altogether.

Until I received my own ARC diagnosis (or, more accurately, my stage-three HIV infection diagnosis), I never paid much attention to the technical aspects of AIDS. Oh, I read all the human interest features, but the scientific articles I blithely ignored, rationalizing that I probably wouldn't understand them anyway and, even if I did, the knowledge would be of little use to me.

Consequently, when friends with AIDS spoke of their experiences with various drugs or therapies, I lent a sympathetic ear, but made little effort to retain the information. Because it wasn't my problem, I didn't bother to learn exactly how interferon worked, what isoprinosine or ribavirin did, or why anyone would bother with primal screaming, visualization, or faith healing.

Now I no longer have that luxury. My T-cell count is low and getting lower, and I am told that, if I do nothing to reverse this trend, no amount of "positive energy" or philosophical detachment is going to help me avoid the inevitable. I can no longer turn a blind eye to the personal threat of AIDS. I must do something to improve my health. The question is, what?

Due to my educational background and cognitive orientation, I am not about to embrace one of the many spiritual counselors and healers floating around. I feel much more comfortable with traditional scientific approaches to medical problems, even if I don't always understand them. Therefore, I have accepted my doctor's advice to take AZT, the latest of the several "wonder drugs" that have appeared on the scene in the last few years.

The trouble is, AZT ain't so wonderful. Not only is it toxic, but it is particularly dangerous for people with damaged livers due to chronic hepatitis, like myself. Also, no one knows if it will do any good in the long run. It seems to help for the first 18 months or so, but beyond that there is a leveling-off trend. Since it has been used by persons with AIDS for less than two years, AZT is still a highly experimental drug.

My doctor tells me not to worry about this, for soon, very soon, he predicts that an entirely new host of less-toxic drugs will appear on the horizon. Indeed, according to Frank Young, commissioner of the federal Food and Drug Administration, the pharmaceutical market may see as many as 20 new anti-AIDS drugs within the next year.

Of course, none of these are guaranteed to work, and I am concerned that each may prove to be as disappointing as the ones that have gone before. (Does anyone take interferon anymore, for instance?) Even if they do work, how will I know which one—or which combination—to take?

To complicate matters further, now it is suggested that HIV may not even be the cause of AIDS and that many of these drugs may therefore be useless. Dr. Peter Duesberg, a professor of molecular biology at Berkeley, is one of the most outspoken proponents of this theory. Joan McKenna, a research physiologist in Berkeley, goes several steps further and proposes that what most people call AIDS is really an untreated form of syphilis.

Without knowing the first thing about either of these theories, I automatically dismissed them until my boyfriend read an article in the January issue of the *Atlantic* and insisted I do the same. Later he made me promise to attend a meeting of concerned individuals interested in finding out more about the AIDS-syphilis connection. He didn't want me to become a believer, necessarily. He merely thought it was in my own best interest to explore all the possibilities.

When I finally attended the meeting after a good deal of foot-dragging, many things became clearer to me. This did not make me feel better, however. It only made me more depressed, for suddenly I realized how great a responsibility I was being forced to assume. This was my life we were talking about, I acknowledged—and perhaps my death. Is it any wonder, then, that when I got home that evening I cried in my boyfriend's arms?

At present I am temporarily putting all these concerns aside and am waiting to see what the future holds. Because I'm not actually sick, I can afford to do that for a while.

BACK ATTACK?



Whoever coined the phrase "Winning Isn't Everything" obviously never met any of the women from my bowling league. Our motto is "Bowl To Win!" We were in the tenth frame and needed a strike to win, so I gave it my all. For some reason, perhaps nerves, my fingers lodged in the ball and I travelled with it down the alley and almost to the pins. We lost, I lived—but not without an incredible case of the "BACK ATTACK."

Fortunately, I see a chiropractor on a regular basis at Cathedral Hill Chiropractic. Through his efforts I am now nearly recovered. Since this incident, our team has changed our motto. It's now "Bowl to Win, But Very Carefully!" Thank God for my friends at Cathedral Hill Chiropractic!

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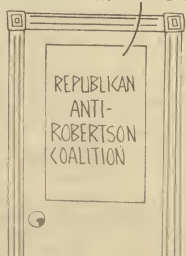
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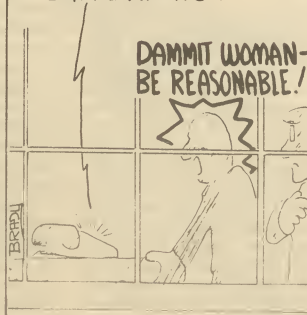
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NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

S. Korea Denies HIV Test for Olympics Visitors

SEOUL—The South Korean government has protested reports that it will demand AIDS-free certificates of visitors to the 1988 Olympics. But a game organizer said free distribution of condoms to athletes was being considered, according to the German news service Deutsche Presse-Agentur.

The Health and Social Affairs Ministry denied the reports, which said foreigners attending the games would have to present proof at border entry points certifying their lack of exposure to HIV.

A spokesman for the ministry said experts had considered such a requirement, but had never worked out all the mechanisms that would be involved in such a scheme.

South Korean officials predict 300,000 foreign visitors to the games.

A medical department staffer of the Seoul Olympic Organization Committee said, meanwhile, that the distribution of condoms to all contestants and team officials at this year's summer games was a definite possibility.

Gay Monument Unveiled in Holland

AMSTERDAM—After eight years of planning, the world's first monument honoring gay people was dedicated last September in Holland. Called the Homomonument, the memorial consists of three large, granite triangles that create a single, large triangle totalling over 500 square meters (1,500 square feet).

The memorial was intended originally to be a tribute to the estimated 50,000 men who were found guilty of homosexuality under Nazi laws between 1933 and 1945. But the monument has become a broader symbol of the lesbian and gay struggle for freedom and justice.

Much of the \$175,000 construction costs were met with government grants, including \$50,000 from the Dutch national government.

—Seattle Gay News

License for New Treatment Sought

WASHINGTON, DC—IMREG, Inc. has applied to the federal Food and Drug Administration for permission to release a new drug that it says reduced the progression to AIDS in test subjects. The company reported that the drug IMREG-1 had been tested at eight medical centers involving 102 patients.

The company said that, "based on preliminary analysis," the drug "was associated with a reduced risk of progression to AIDS." If approved, IMREG-1 could join AZT in early intervention treatment of ARC and AIDS.

Details of the trials were not released, pending publication of the data to scientific journals. A company spokesman said that the company wanted to avoid the experience with another drug, ribavirin, in which early studies were criticized as hastily done.

—New York Times

Pres. Commission Heckled in NYC

NEW YORK CITY—At least 300 protesters blocked evening rush-hour traffic Feb. 18 as they noisily demonstrated against the President's AIDS Commission holding public hearings in New York. Commission members left the building where the hearings took place by a side exit through the basement.

Demonstrators chanted, "History will recall, Reagan did nothing at all," and strung red tape from shoulder to shoulder to dramatize the slowness of research into AIDS treatments. "No drugs, no cure, no peace," they shouted.

Police arrested 15 protesters who had sat down in the street, blocking traffic on Park Avenue.

Other protesters testified before the commission. Some heckled speakers they found "outrageous," according to the New York Native.

Referring to the commission, Ron Goldberg of ACT UP said, "They clearly bought the FDA line" that low FDA funding was the reason for the delays.

—New York Native



Secret Tracking For AIDS Stopped

SAN FRANCISCO—A leading U.S. health maintenance organization has abandoned a secret AIDS tracking policy. An Aug. 31, 1987, memo from General Med had required the organization's physicians to identify all patients with AIDS, ARC or HIV antibodies to plan administrators. The memo gave no indication that patients were to be informed of the notification policy.

A concerned General Med physician sought the assistance of Benjamin Schatz, director of NGR's AIDS Civil rights Project, in abolishing the policy. In repeated discussions, Schatz convinced General Med executive director Roberta Holtzman that the tracking policy violated California's confidentiality laws. As a result, General Med sent a notice informing physicians that the tracking plan had been abandoned.

"We must not tolerate the creation of secret AIDS lists which can potentially be misused to deny health care or to discriminate in other ways," said Schatz. "Health care providers must know that NGR is fully prepared to litigate if they violate their patients' rights."

Jean O'Leary, NGR executive director, said, "It is critically important for hospitals and HMO's to protect the confidentiality of people with AIDS-related conditions. If patients cannot trust their physicians, they will not approach them for information and treatment. In the long run, this will only cause more people to become ill."

Dental Plan Halts AIDS Notices

SAN FRANCISCO—Pressure from National Gay Rights Advocates has led a Southern California dental plan to abandon its policy of sending notices informing dentists when their patients are known to be infected with HIV antibodies. The notice, sent by Safeguard Health Plans, had indicated that plan members were "exposed to an infectious communicable disease, namely AIDS."

After NGR criticized the policy as illegal and medically unsound, Safeguard attorney Carol Locklear agreed to stop distribution of the memorandum.

"California law specifically prohibits disclosures of this kind without written consent of the test subject," said Benjamin Schatz, director of NGR's AIDS Civil Rights Project. "Notifying dentists that a few patients have tested HIV antibody-positive not only stigmatizes these patients, but also endangers the dentist. Since most infected patients will not be identified, the only way for dentists to protect themselves is to follow infection control guidelines with all of their patients."

NGRA executive director Jean O'Leary commented, "Unauthorized disclosure is particularly dangerous when it is likely to result in a denial of health care. Safeguard's policy helped to feed the hysteria of those dentists who are refusing to care for people with AIDS and related conditions."

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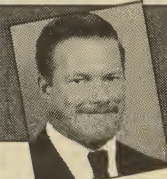
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A Majority of Minorities

Achtenberg Pins Hopes On Grassroots Appeal

by Miranda Kolbe

"It's absolutely true that I'm the underdog in this race," said Roberta Achtenberg, candidate for the 16th Assembly district seat. However, she added "[My opponent] is dead in the water." Achtenberg claimed that, while support for her campaign is growing every day, opponent John Burton has not been well received by voters in the district.

With endorsements from the Harvey Milk, Alice B. Toklas and Stonewall Clubs, she has garnered support from "just about every individual with name recognition" in the gay and lesbian community, according to Achtenberg's press representative Debra Chasnoff. Gays and lesbians make up between 20-30 percent of the voters in her district, she said.

"There is unprecedented support in the community for my candidacy," Achtenberg said. Whether or not she wins the election, she believes lesbians and

gays across the country will have been empowered by her campaign.

However, she added, "I am planning to win."

A newcomer to electoral politics, Achtenberg said her decision to run was based on others' beliefs that she was the "right person for the job."

"I also felt that [being an Assembly member] is an important job for someone who would have the leadership qualities that seem to be lacking in so many of our state legislators, someone who would be willing to take difficult positions on hard issues if that was what was required to get the job done," said Achtenberg.

The directing attorney of the Lesbian Rights Project, which is part of Equal Rights Advocates, Achtenberg has displayed her dedication to progressive movements in San Francisco since the early 1970s. She is the editor of *Sexual Orientation and the Law*, a 700-page book on discrimination and AIDS issues. She is an active member of the San Francisco chapter of the National Lawyers' Guild. And she is on the board of directors of United Way of the Bay Area.

Achtenberg has described her campaign strategy as "building a majority of the minorities" who constitute residents of the 16th Assembly district. Through her campaign, she hopes to bind gays and lesbians, progressives, labor groups, tenants, and racial minorities into a solid coalition.

"AIDS will be my first priority as a legislator," Achtenberg said. Other priorities include working to improve child care, disabled people's rights, housing and education, lowering insurance rates, and fighting sex discrimination.

Responding to comments that Burton's stands on the issues are similar to her own, Achtenberg referred to Burton's work as a paid lobbyist for "unsavory organizations" such as Pacific Gas & Electric and the Sante Fe Pacific Realty Company. "I have no such ties," she said, "and I have no intention of establishing any."

Because Burton has said he will continue to work for such groups if elected, Achtenberg believes Burton would be unable to represent residents of the district if issues concerning those companies were to arise during his term.

Achtenberg also stated that she doesn't believe Burton "knows enough about AIDS or



Roberta Achtenberg

(Photo: Rink)

sex discrimination or child care or is close enough to the educational system. He isn't able to, nor does he show any interest in taking a leadership position on any of those issues. You don't decide if somebody is the same on the issues by looking at their voting record alone."

According to Achtenberg, the Democratic Party's recent endorsement process "was another example of John trying to put in the fix." Achtenberg said she sought no endorsement in this process, believing that, in this race, a pre-primary endorsement would be inappropriate. "Don't use the party apparatus that's weighted in favor of party insiders to give a party insider an insurmountable edge over a representative of an underrepresented group, such as the gay and lesbian community," Achtenberg said.

Achtenberg believes that having effectively blocked the party's endorsement will help her campaign. "It's hard to assess just what the effect would have been [had Burton received the endorsement], but you have to imagine that it would carry sway with people to know that so-and-so was the candidate of the Democratic Party, especially in this district. The 16th is a very Democratic district in a very Democratic town," she reflected.

When asked whether others' homophobia would affect her ability to be an effective legislator, Achtenberg replied, "I will be a powerful legislator. People's prejudice may mean something initially. But when you do your homework and you outmaneuver them, then sometimes you win."

Party Nod Denied Burton

by Miranda Kolbe

A weekend of political wrangling in Palm Springs resulted in no Democratic Party endorsement for the upcoming 16th Assembly District primary. Candidate Roberta Achtenberg, who described the lack of an endorsement as a victory for her side, had filed a suit prior to the weekend, claiming that the party's endorsement process was unconstitutional.

Achtenberg disputed the presence of five delegates appointed by Rep. Nancy Pelosi. Because Sala Burton's delegates remained on the decision-making Central Committee, Achtenberg argued that the 5th Congressional District had double representation. She also charged that Pelosi's appointments had been made after the deadline mandated by party by-laws.

The endorsement process began on Friday evening, when Achtenberg asked that delegates not be seated because some of those delegates had been improperly appointed. After some consideration of Achtenberg's appeal, the committee decided on a compromise, seating all of the delegates but granting Pelosi's and Burton's appointees only one-half vote each.

On the following day, the com-

mittee agreed to a last-minute rules change which allows delegates who did not reside in the 16th District to name proxies who live in the district to cast their votes.

"The Burton people then went scrambling around, looking for people who lived in the 16th Assembly District, so their people could give their proxy to them," said Achtenberg.

Finally, Burton succeeded in capturing 60.1 percent of the votes, just enough for an endorsement.

However, the fight was not yet over. Achtenberg's campaigners, claiming at least five questionable maneuvers throughout the endorsement process, gathered up 350 signatures necessary to contest the endorsement on the following day.

When it came time to decide whether or not the endorsement was valid, Achtenberg's group asked for a quorum call. As this was the last item on the agenda, most people had already left, and a quorum could not be reached.

A meeting of the executive branch of the Central Committee has been called for April 29 to settle the matter. However, as the primary is set for April 12, the endorsement has been effectively blocked.

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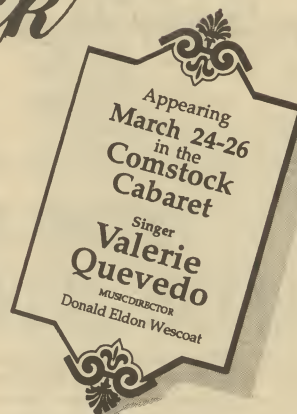
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Get Arrested, Get Tested?

Senate Bill Would OK Requests for Inmates' Tests

by Roy Bateman

A minor scuffle with a police officer could result in a forced AIDS test, under legislation proposed by State Sen. Robert Presley (D-Riverside). The bill, supported by the California Medical Association (CMA), would set up procedures for police, prison guards, and parole agents to order compulsory AIDS tests if they fear they might have caught AIDS from an incident with a person in custody. Test results could be released without the subject's consent.

At a State Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on March 15, parole officers, prison guards, and other law enforcement personnel testified that they were terrified of catching AIDS from contact with inmates. Officers told of being stabbed and bitten by inmates, sticking themselves

with hypodermic needles during searches, and blood contact during fights with inmates. Officers complained that the aftermath of an incident was months of anxiety and family stress while they waited for a definitive HIV antibody test, since HIV infection does not result in a positive test

until after a "window period" of three months or more.

One officer who fears he may have been exposed said he feels "like a psychological victim of AIDS," afraid that his children might touch his toothbrush or razor or that he might transmit the virus to his wife. Law enforcement personnel testified that, after an incident that might transmit the AIDS virus, they would be reassured if they could promptly know the HIV status of the inmate involved.

The Presley bill, SB 1913, would establish procedures for a law enforcement officer who comes into contact with bodily fluids of a person in custody to request that the person undergo a mandatory HIV test.

If the incident occurred in a prison, the chief medical officer of the prison would decide whether to require the test. The decision to test could be appealed to a three-member panel consisting of the prison's chief medical officer, a representative of the prison, and an independent medical expert. Inmates could also request testing of other inmates if they have engaged in tattoo or drug needle-sharing, sex, or "confinement with a cellmate under circumstances involving possible mingling of bodily fluids."

Contact with saliva, as well as blood and semen, is included in the list of risky body fluid contacts that can trigger compulsory testing. Sen. H.L. Richardson (R-Glendale) said guards face AIDS hazards such as "being spat on" and "wrestling with a sweaty inmate."



Now you might have to be tested for AIDS if you live beyond these gates (Photo: S. Savage)

During the hearing, Sen. Diane Watson (D-Los Angeles) questioned what she termed Presley's "assumption that guards won't have AIDS." Presley replied, "There's no provision to test officers, because they are not considered a group at risk." After Watson cited cases where women inmates have been raped by guards, Presley agreed to amend his bill to permit inmates to request that guards be tested under some circumstances.

The proposed legislation would also apply to people held in local jails and county or state juvenile facilities. If there were an incident of potential transmission, HIV testing could be required of an individual who had merely been taken into custody by local police and charged with a crime, even if he were later found innocent of the charges.

The bill would also reduce confidentiality protections for people with HIV infection. Wardens, jail staff, and prison doctors would be required to notify guards when they are coming

into contact with inmates or persons charged with a crime who are antibody-positive or have AIDS or ARC. When an inmate is released, the bill would require jail or prison staff to notify the inmate's parole or probation officer if the inmate tested positive for the HIV antibody or has AIDS or ARC. The officer would be permitted to reveal this information to the inmate's spouse, county health authorities, and other law enforcement personnel.

Robert Alexander, leader of a support group for prisoners with AIDS, told the committee, "We are in favor of compulsory education, but not compulsory testing. Testing should be for the benefit of the person being tested. It should not be a punishment." Alexander, a retired architect, and his wife, a grief counselor, have been visiting the AIDS ward at the state prison at Vacaville every week for more than two years. In the support group, they "tell the men to assume that every other person is infected" and to behave accordingly. Alexander said that a guard who fears he has been infected should be tested at appropriate intervals to determine his HIV status.

Rand Martin, a lobbyist for the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality (LIFE), testified that information about a contact's test result is of limited usefulness to a person who fears he may have been infected. For example, an inmate in the "window period" could test negative, but still infect a guard, and if the guard ordered the inmate tested, he would be led to a false sense of security and possibly infect others. Martin sympathized with the guards' fears, explaining, "Sure, it's a stress, but it's been a stress for the gay community."

Marjorie Schwartz of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) testified against SB 1913, citing the ACLU's opposition to mandatory testing and violations of due process in the proposed testing procedures. Schwartz complained that the appeals panel would be stacked against the inmate, since the medical officer who ordered the test and his co-worker would be in the majority. Schwartz called for distribution of bleach and condoms in prisons.

The Friends Committee on Legislation, a Quaker-sponsored group, declared its opposition to the Presley bill. Staff of the Department of Corrections also opposed the bill in its present form, because its procedures could not withstand a court challenge.

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The San Francisco Department of Public Health offers AIDS Antibody Testing which is **voluntary, free and anonymous**. Counseling and referrals are also available. To make an appointment for testing, call **621-4858**

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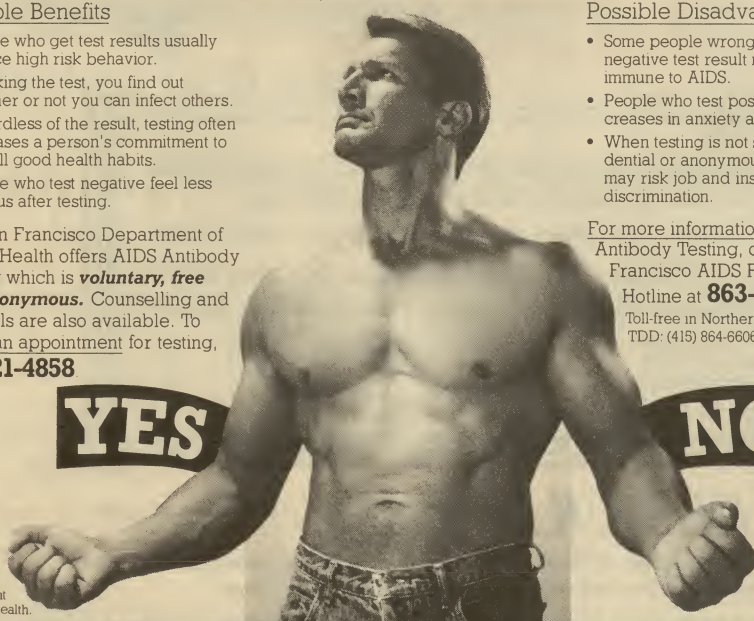
- Some people wrongly believe that a negative test result means they are immune to AIDS.
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- When testing is not strictly confidential or anonymous, some people may risk job and insurance discrimination.

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Forum on Killing Draws Concern

by Bill Paul

More than 150 people turned out for last Thursday's community forum on the killing of George Smoot.

The forum was co-sponsored by Stonewall, the Harvey Milk Club, Alice B. Toklas Club, and Lesbian Agenda for Action. The event was largely organized by the Stonewall executive board and moderated by John Wahl. Brief presentations on legal and other aspects of the case were made by a panel of civil rights activists including Pat Norman, John Crew, Ken Jones, and Matt Coles, with CUV represented by Randy Schell and new director Beverly Mesch. Concerned and sometimes angry members of the community directed most of their questions to Police Chief Frank Jordan, Randy Schell, and Sup. Harry Britt.

Because the meeting occurred before sentencing of George Smoot's juvenile killer, Jordan declined to answer some of the most insistent questions from the audience because of his concern that any statements he made might prejudice the boy's right to a fair hearing and lead to an appeal of the conviction.

Jordan, however, listened to charges that the homicide detail had bungled the investigation because of homophobic bias on their part and, in fact, seem to have made Smoot the chief suspect. Panelists pointed out that police collected no physical evidence from the suspect's home, even though fiber and hair samples from the house and from the clothing of his sister could have tested the alibi that many neighbors described as "preposterous."

The chief contradicted statements from the District Attorney's Office that the homicide investigators had recommended a charge of justifiable homicide. Jordan also defended his department against accusations that the police gave the media personal writings from George Smoot's diary. Copies of the diary, Jordan pointed out, were in the hands of the District Attorney's Office and the defense counsel.

Jordan promised an investigation of the homicide detail's handling of the investigation. He also promised to attend another community forum after the sentencing.

Several of Smoot's friends and neighbors offered some moving personal accounts of George Smoot as a nonviolent man.

Britt, who listened through most of the two-hour exchange between panelists and the audience, refuted accusations from the floor that he had not spoken out against the violence inflicted upon Smoot and had remained silent for too long about the police handling of the case.

The audience was especially interested in what specific actions are being taken in the case. All three Democratic clubs have voted to act in unity on this case by undertaking the following measures:

1) Demanding a rigorous, independent investigation of police conduct in the homicide investigation in the Smoot case. Stonewall and the Toklas club are working with John Crew of the ACLU to initiate a formal investigation by the Office of Citizen's Complaints to investigate police

actions, policies and procedures. The Milk club has asked Mayor Agnos to order a major investigation by the Police Commission. In addition, Chief Jordan has promised a serious formal inquiry within the Police Department.

2) Submitting a complaint of judicial misconduct against Judge Daniel Weinstein to the California Commission on Judicial Performance. Weinstein blamed Smoot for his own murder, calling him "reprehensible." Petitions are also being circulated for a recall campaign against Weinstein in the June 7 election.

In addition, San Franciscans are urged to contact Mayor Agnos and ask that he rescind his March 1 appointment of Weinstein to head the city's Task Force on Youth and Dependent Children.

(Bill Paul is president of the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club and has been active on this issue.)

United Way Gives \$1.1M to Fight AIDS

Special Fund Seeks Proposals

by Jay Newquist

United Way of the Bay Area has upped the ante against the AIDS epidemic with the award of a whopping \$1.1 million to AIDS-related charities in the Bay Area. A new feature of the 1987 fundraising campaign was the AIDS Crisis Fund, a special giving option.

More than 10,000 donors chose the special fund, which automatically earmarked grants to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Shanti Project. Each of the AIDS-related organizations will receive at least \$300,000 apiece, with the remaining \$500,000 to be given to other AIDS services.

Some \$100,000 was designated by donors for 20 other Bay Area AIDS-related organizations. The remaining \$350,000 is allocated through one-year renewable grants to Bay Area AIDS programs.

"We're especially concerned that services be provided for unmet needs," said United Way President Joseph w. Valentine, "to plug gaps in the areas of direct patient services and AIDS prevention and education."

"We will be particularly interested in grant proposals that focus on racial and ethnic minorities, and we want to work in concert with public health officials," he said.

The board of United Way voted in June 1987 to form the AIDS Crisis Fund as the first United Way commitment in the U.S. to fight AIDS.

Donors were urged, for the first time, not only to help support the 287 health and human

care agencies already funded by the United Way, but also to make an extra gift to fight the epidemic.

United Way also expects to raise \$30,000 for AIDS efforts from sales of the Amis Du Coeur wine. The fund will receive 25 percent of the year-round proceeds of Bay Area sales of the specially-bottled 1986 Napa Sauvignon Blanc.

To distribute the funds, United Way of the Bay Area is soliciting proposals for grants to address the AIDS crisis. Applications are scheduled for mailing May 1.

The proposals will be considered in the categories of direct services for people with AIDS/ARC and AIDS/ARC awareness, education and prevention.

No research grants are planned, as the review committee seeks proposals that offer the maximum impact on the epidemic for the one-year grant cycle.

The various priorities identified by United Way are candid, educational materials on AIDS and ARC targeted to specific populations; support services for people with AIDS or ARC; and a cash fund for indigent persons with AIDS or ARC who are without alternatives.



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Fed. Bill On Hate Crime Near Vote

by Ray O'Loughlin

Federal legislation to require that the U.S. Justice Department keep statistics on hate crimes is near passage, according to gay rights lobbyists in Washington, D.C. The Hate Crimes Statistics Act (H.R. 3193) would mandate the collection of statistics on crimes motivated by prejudice on the basis of sexual orientation, race, religion and ethnicity.

The bill may come up for a vote by the House of Representatives in mid-April.

According to Peri Jude Radecic, of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the bill faces its last hurdle this week in efforts to retain the language that includes sexual orientation as one of the areas to keep figures on.

"We're working hard to bring it up with no amendments," said Radecic. Rep. George Bekas of Pennsylvania introduced an amendment to remove sexual orientation from the bill.

"We have a good feeling we can work something out with the people who want to remove sexual orientation from the bill. It's a matter of definitions," she explained. "We want to define orientation as meaning only homosexuality, bisexuality and heterosexuality and not things like pedophilia, that they're afraid of."

The bill, authored by Michigan Rep. John Conyers, has 107 sponsors. It could go before the House soon after April 10, following the Easter recess.

"We've worked nonstop on this bill for the last year," said Radecic. "Because of our grassroots lobbying efforts, we have been able to create momentum for a victory for the lesbian and gay community."

After the House takes action on the bill, it will go to the Senate where California Sen. Alan Cranston has said he will carry the legislation. ●

Crime

(Continued from page one)

"prejudice-based incidents" include acts directed at the person or property of a member of any minority class. Such acts can be "criminal," such as assaults, threatening phone calls, and bomb threats. They can also be "non-criminal," such as name-calling, intimidation, and threats of retaliation.

The policy specifies what indicates a prejudicial motivation. Investigating officers are instructed to look for "words, symbols or acts which are or may be offensive to an identifiable group used by a perpetrator; a prior history of similar crimes in the same area against the same victim group;" and whether or not "a meaningful portion of the community perceive and respond to the incident as a prejudice-based one."

RIPPLE EFFECT

The chief's order also instructs the department's community relations unit to carry the message to neighborhood groups to encourage reporting of incidents.

Jordan said he believed the order would have a "ripple effect" throughout the police force and the community as officers are sensitized to the concerns of minority communities.

Now that a system has been established for collecting reliable data on hate crimes, all statistics will be forwarded to federal authorities for inclusion in standard crime reports.

Reporting data on these crimes, said Jordan, will "pressure the federal government to fight hate crimes."

"We're sending the word out that we're not going to tolerate hate-type crimes in San Francisco," said Jordan. He called it a form of "serious crime."

With this new policy, San Francisco joins two other California cities—Los Angeles and Concord—in combatting such crimes.

Under California law, criminal and civil prosecution is possible for hate crimes. The Ralph Civil Rights Act sets up procedures for civil lawsuits for victims of prejudice.

Organizations which were involved in the development of the order are: SFPD Community Services Division, Break the Silence Coalition, American Civil Liberties Union, S.F. NAACP, S.F. Chapter of National Organization for Women, Lawyers' Committee for Urban Affairs, Community United Against Violence, and Anti-Defamation League.

Initial impetus for the special order came from a conference sponsored by Break the Silence on anti-Asian violence in 1986. ●

Dignity Celebrates Easter

Dignity/San Francisco, the organization of gay and lesbian Roman Catholics, will make Easter with a special Vigil service and potluck dinner on Saturday, April 2, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Members of the lesbian and gay community are invited to join this occasion celebrating Christ's resurrection from the dead.

The service and dinner will be held at Rose Court, 2507 Pine Street at Pierce in San Francisco. The celebration, based upon early Christian liturgies, will include

the ceremonial lighting of the Easter fire and candle, scripture readings and songs, reception of new members and renewal of baptismal promises, and an informal Eucharist. Guests may bring a hot dish, salad or dessert for the potluck.

The Saturday evening service takes the place of Dignity's usual Sunday 5:30 p.m. Eucharist at St. Boniface Church. There will be no Dignity Mass on Easter Sunday.

For more information, call Dignity at 584-1714. ●

Volunteer: Your community needs you.

Jackson Says His Pro-Gay Stance Hasn't Hurt Him

'No Exceptions in Equal Protection'

by Allen White

Democratic presidential candidate Jesse Jackson said on Sunday, March 20, in Oakland that he has not been criticized for his strong support of gay and lesbian rights. Jackson was criss-crossing the state this weekend, trying to gather support from many, including the gay and lesbian community.

His final stop was a Sunday afternoon rally in front of the Oakland City Hall. Following a speech to several thousand people, he was asked by Bay Area Reporter if he has received criticism for his strong support for the gay and lesbian community.

Jackson said, "I have not." He then explained, "I simply have taken the position relative to gays and lesbians that there are two things we must do."

His first point was to "constitutionally respect every person's civil rights. We must provide, under law, equal protection for every American citizen. That can not be excepted based upon race or sex or sexual preference or religion."

He also said, "On the other hand, we must have a sense of humanity and compassion for people. I was the only candidate to go to the rally on Oct. 11 in Washington where 600,000 people gathered. Gays, lesbians and their friends."

Jackson made the March on Washington one of four locations where he announced his candidacy for president of the United States. As he spoke at the Capitol Mall, there were over 2,000 people with AIDS directly in front of him.

Recalling the moment, he told the crowd in Oakland, "I saw people dying from the AIDS epidemic. The AIDS crisis is an international health crisis. Because we care, because we are humane, we must reach out, and I am just saying that, when we do so, we are being legally sound and morally correct."

When asked if the Democratic Party had the nerve to nominate him, Jackson said, "Well, the people will decide who will be nominated."

Then he turned to the crowd and asked, "How many of you are going to vote Democratic?" The crowd roared. He then asked, "How many of you are going to vote for Jesse Jackson?" The crowd roared even louder. "So the Democratic Party speaks," the candidate concluded.

Jackson criticized people who say whites would not vote for him. "It is another bait we should not bite," he said. Jackson stressed that he had received more white votes in Iowa, New Hampshire, Minnesota, Maine and Vermont than Albert Gore, Jr., Paul Simon, Bruce Babbitt, Gary Hart or Richard Gephardt.

"On Super Tuesday," Jackson said, "I got more votes than Dukakis and Gephardt and Simon and Babbitt and Hart. And tonight I have more votes than Dukakis and Simon and Gephardt and Gore." He said that in Atlanta he would continue to have the largest number of votes.

He chose not to mention the fact that this past weekend he also came in either first or second in Alaska, Kansas and Puerto Rico.

COMPARED TO JFK

Jackson's campaign style may be changing the beliefs of political analysts. Alameda County Sup. John George said there were similarities between the Jackson candidacy and that of John F. Kennedy in 1960.

George said, "In 1960 the talk was of Lyndon Johnson, Adlai Stevenson, and I think even Hubert Humphrey got into it. Kennedy was dismissed because he was Catholic. He was given no chance because he didn't have the experience of senators like Johnson. Then it became clear that Kennedy was getting votes. The change that took place with Kennedy, I believe, is now starting to take place with Jesse Jackson. The other candidates may have the lyrics, but they don't have the music."

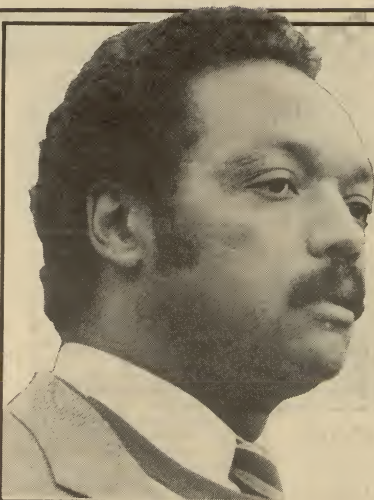
In addition to Jackson's Oakland speech, he also addressed an estimated crowd of 10,000 at a Saturday rally in the Bay Area community of Pittsburg. One avid listener was gay union activist Howard Wallace. Wallace praised Jackson: "His political base and his program have brought together a multi-racial and multi-ethnic combination of working class, farmers, and many of the disenfranchised of society. It's working to build a tremendous momentum. It's a major force."

However, Wallace didn't feel Jackson would get the Democratic nomination. "It's a working class coalition, but it's in a party that is not prepared to respond to that coalition," Wallace said. "I think the chances of Dukakis getting nominated are very strong, or some dark horse. It's probably going to be Dukakis. I think there is going to be a lot of disappointment. I think a new radicalization is developing; just look in the streets right now."

Wallace is part of a larger group of area gays and lesbians who are supporting Jackson. "I'm going to vote for Jackson as a symbolic gesture. He is pushing our agenda, he is helping reach millions of people who we would have trouble reaching by ourselves."

Others in the gay community believe he can win. Pat Norman noted, "There is no doubt he can win in California. There is a clear change in the perception. It's going from a 'lightweight' to 'he's not electable' to 'we support him on the issues, and we know he can win if we support him.'"

The 1,000-member Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club favored Jackson, in a straw poll conducted in January, by 42 percent. Paul Simon was second with 29 percent.



'We must provide, under law, equal protection for every American citizen. That cannot be excepted based upon race or sex or sexual preference or religion.'

—Jesse Jackson



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Friday, April 1st Good Friday

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DEATHS

Gene Russell

Jan. 25, 1937—March 15, 1988

A loving, generous and thoughtful person.



John Lindgren

John Lindgren was born May 4, 1956 and passed away March 19, 1988, following a year-and-one-half struggle with AIDS.

John moved to San Francisco following a career as a professional ballet dancer. Discovering that he had a particular talent with problem solving and technical systems, he later worked as a computer programmer.



John devoted countless hours to the Stop AIDS Project as a group leader, managing a staff of volunteers involved in early educational outreach to the gay community.

John was a very spiritual person who celebrated his journey through life with joy and openness. He was a lover of people who led them by his own example.

John is survived by his parents, Harold and Beverly Lindgren; his sisters, Mary and Cindy; his brothers, Steven and Scott; and his family of friends.

Contributions may be made to Open Hand and the AIDS Emergency Fund.

A gathering of John's family and friends will take place at the Albion House, 135 Gough St., on Sunday, March 27, 1988, at 2 p.m.

John, we love you and miss you.

Elliott Daniel Zeff

Aug. 8, 1960—March 12, 1988

Danny died at U.C. Medical Center following a courageous three-year battle with AIDS. His family and friends were with him.

Danny graduated from U.C. Berkeley in 1983 with a BSW. While at Berkeley, he worked at Bill's Men's Shop and volunteered at the Pacific Center and The Jewish Home for the Aged.



Danny's second bachelors degree, in nursing, was earned at S.F. State two years after he had been diagnosed with AIDS. He worked as a visiting nurse providing home care for the critically ill, including several people with AIDS. He then worked at a hospital in Berkeley up until a week before his death.

Danny drew strength from the support of his family and friends, his acupuncturist, his support groups at the Center for Attitudinal Healing, and from the superb and sensitive care of the many health care professionals at U.C. Medical Center.

Through his example and love, Danny offered his friends guidance and support in being true to themselves. He will be greatly missed by many. We will always love you Danny.

A memorial service will be held April 10. Contact Martha, 653-0945 or George, 841-3756.

Carroll Davis

A North Beach comic and singer, he originally worked at Finnochios, then worked at the Chi Chi Club and at Ann's 440 Club on Broadway.



He passed away March 16 at the age of 72. He will be missed by many of his friends and by Joe Harlock (pianist).

Marc Molina

March 7, 1948—Feb. 20, 1988

Marc Molina died at Kaiser Hospital in the City with loved ones at his bedside. He had suffered with ARC and AIDS for more than a year.



A naturalized citizen, Marc was a native of Honduras. A year as an exchange student in Oregon convinced him to continue his education in the U.S. He got his degree in Architecture from LSU.

A stint in the Navy brought him to the Bay Area, which was to be his home for the rest of his life. He worked for various architectural firms over the years, and retired from the design staff of Kaiser Permanente in Oakland.

While architecture was his vocation, Marc's true love was painting. His huge canvases of orchid blooms are overwhelming in their matter-of-fact sensuality. Besides his painting, Marc liked keeping tropical fish, working out religiously at the Presidio gym, and raising the orchids he so lovingly painted.

He was also an aficionado of dancing at the Rawhide, nice clothes, and good food. Marc was a wonderful cook who loved to entertain, and those of us who enjoyed his hospitality experienced some culinary treats.

At heart an innocent in spite of his sophistication, Marc leaves behind his lover and family, both in the U.S. and Honduras, as well as scores of friends who will sorely miss him.

Anthony 'Tony' Leonardo Warf

Feb. 25, 1952—March 10, 1988

There's another empty corner on Castro Street. For years Tony practiced his art through hairdressing in the back booth of Louie's Barber Shop on Castro near Market. He was as much a hallmark of the area's color and vitality as the neon sign which lights the Castro Theater.



Tony loved his work and gave much of himself to others, making countless "hairdresser home-visits" to clients who were too ill to come to his shop; most often he did this without charge. Tony was a sweet and gentle man who could spot phoniness in others and never hesitated to make it known; there was a certain charm in this. The vacant spot left at his passing can never quite be filled.

Because of the support provided by the AIDS Foundation, Tony was well taken care of in his last days. A deep and heartfelt thanks to Michael Lynch, Michael Lee, and all the fellas at the house who made such a difference. Coming Home Hospice provided a gentle atmosphere and loving attention which enabled Tony to let go with ease and grace, so that he died very peacefully.

Love and thanks to Joe Doyle, Jerry Grieffner, Larry Laterza, and many others of the staff there. Thank you Barry Day. Thank you Stan Watson.

Anyone wishing to acknowledge their affection and respect to Tony's memory could do so through a small donation to the AIDS Foundation, AIDS Emergency Fund, or Coming Home Hospice.

We love you, Tony.

Val DuVal

Nov. 10, 1918—March 13, 1988

A legend left this world for a better one when Val DuVal passed away after a brief illness.



Val was a dress designer, entertainer, and active participant and supporter of many community activities and functions. His motto was "The more outrageous the better."

He will be missed by his many friends and neighbors in the Duboce Triangle where he had a shop for 12 years, and by his partner of 15 years, Jerry Elsingner, who will try to keep the shop open with community support.

Robert Dean Osborne

Born Nov. 19, 1947 in Richland County, Wisconsin. Joined Perry S. Wood April 15, 1978. Diagnosed with AIDS Oct. 31, 1985.



Died of complications due to AIDS March 16, 1988. No funeral service. Ashes to be scattered.

It is suggested that memorial donations be made to Coming Home Hospice, 115 Diamond, S.F., CA 94114 and/or Shanti Project, 325 Howard, S.F., CA 94105.

David Paul Ruhlman

Sept. 3, 1950—Jan. 15, 1988

David passed away at home in San Francisco at 12:33 p.m., Jan. 15, after a ten-month illness with AIDS. As one who loved his home, it was appropriate that a memorial was held there Jan. 23.



David moved to San Francisco in 1971. He found innocent delight and humor in many things, but was especially dedicated to home gardening and collecting flea market treasure.

David is survived by his lover Charles Ridge of San Francisco and formerly of New York State.

He is missed every day.

Steven L. Gerhard

Steven passed peacefully in his sleep to a higher plane March 18 at home with his mother Betty, friends Elaine Swinyer, Beato Osiman, Hospice CNA Chris Yelding, and his beloved Schnauzer buddy Dutch by his side.



Steve was born Oct. 2, 1953 in Dayton, Ohio to Betty and Lester Donald Gerhard. He moved to San Francisco in 1975 after graduating from Bowling Green State University, Ohio, with a degree in Fine Arts. He's left behind him a legacy of paintings and drawings that only touched the surface of his talents. His last 11 years here he worked as an acrylic designer-fabricator and foreman. The products of his craft are to be seen all over the Bay Area from the San Francisco Airport to downtown San Francisco and beyond both bridges. They are even more evidence of his talents, creativity, and scrupulous attention to detail. These assets he carried over to friends, family, and other PWAs with endless expressions of love, caring, and consideration.

Steve is survived by his loving mother and father; his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Sunderland, all of Spring Valley, Ohio; his caring sister Karen Katsarski, nephews David and Kristopher of Illinois; and his San Francisco family of friends who loved him and always will.

Steve will be missed by all who knew him, but we will always have him with us in our hearts and minds. We love you Steven. Thank you for letting us know you.

Contributions in Steve's name may be made to San Francisco Hospice, the AIDS Mastery, Family Link, Shanti, and the AIDS Foundation.

Obituary Policy

Bay Area Reporter publishes obituaries as a free community service. Obituaries are accepted until 5 p.m. Monday for Thursday publication. We ask that you keep them under 200 words. We reserve the right to edit obituaries for length or style. We cannot publish poetry.

If you wish photos returned, please submit a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Photos can also be picked up at the B.A.R. office Thursday or any working day between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

DEATHS

Thomas Quinonez Nov. 29, 1951—March 9, 1988

Thomas Quinonez, born in Hawaii on Nov. 19, 1951, died March 9. He made his home in San Ramon, and for the past eight years was a member of the Civic Arts Theatre. He was a featured dancer at the Beaux Arts Ball and the Closet Ball.

He is survived by his parents David and Jennie Quinonez, and brothers David and Richard.

A memorial service will be held at noon on April 2 at San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St. in San Francisco.

Contributions in his name may be made to the AIDS Task Force of Contra Costa County, 1111 Ward St., Room 313, Martinez, CA 94553.

Glenn H. Morris

Feb. 5, 1957—March 14, 1988

Monday, March 14, 1988 our friend Glenn continued his journey on to the other side. Raised in Southern California, Glenn moved to San Francisco in the late 70s.

Of the many things he taught me (shopping, cooking, clothes, etc.), special thanks for always encouraging me to be who I am fully. Your friends in San Francisco and your newer friends in New York will remember you fondly. Happy travels until we meet again.

He leaves behind his family in Southern California (June and Ladd Morris, Marian, and Grandma), and the recovering fellowship in San Francisco.

A celebration of his life will be held at MCC, 150 Eureka St., Saturday, April 2, at 3 p.m. For more information contact Peter at 285-6699.

Laurence Tozoe, O.F.M.

1946—1988

Larry was sent home to God last week in a splendid celebration of hundreds of his friends at Saint Paul of the Shipwreck in Hunters' Point. Larry died March 7, having sustained an AIDS diagnosis for 15 months.

During his dozen years in the Bay Area, Larry ministered to many communities, and taught at a number of schools, most recently at Mercy High School in San Francisco. He was a Franciscan, ordained in 1974. A preacher without peer, his words were evocatively addressed to the recesses of the heart, to those areas where we humans have lived in fear and in subjugation to the laws of a dark and sinister culture. He called out of us a response to live in the light, to resist cheap grace, and to continue on our journeys regardless of the cost.

Accompanied by gold lamé fans, and in later years, by his star-filled wand, he preached the Gospel designed to upset the satisfied in each of us. He called each of us to live on the edge, where he experienced most vividly the liberation the Gospel promises.

Larry was taken care of by many, especially in the last six months by his mother Josie, and leaves behind a host of friends: Tony, Patty, Charlie, Linda, Anna, Judy, Bill and Scott, Steven and Shirley, and so many others miss you and love you, Larry.

It was Larry's wish that donations be made to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation where Larry received gracious assistance from Chris Alexander when he was first diagnosed.

John K. Brown

May 28, 1961—March 18, 1988

John passed away peacefully on Friday, March 18, after a brief illness. He was in the company of those who loved him: his parents Charles and Betty Brown, lover David, and good friend Lenny.



John's charm, humor, and quick wit will be fondly remembered by all who knew him.

Funeral services will be Thursday, March 24th in Tallahassee, Florida. A memorial service for his friends here in San Francisco will be held at the Cafe San Marcos, Monday, March 28, at 7:30 p.m.

"The Big Teddy is gone. We are going to miss your hugs and smiles."

Clive Kahn

April 8, 1945—Feb. 29, 1988

Clive's presence in our lives was so strong and so positive we are forever enriched by his memory. He had a magical charm, a dazzling smile, a mischievous wit, and a sparkle in his eyes that could knock you over, not to mention that captivating accent. He cared deeply for his friends and constantly encouraged our careers and creativity.

Born in Durban, South Africa, Clive moved to Toronto in 1967, beginning his career as a designer. Within three years, he was named one of Canada's top three designers. He then went to work in New York and moved to San Francisco in 1977, often traveling all over the world for various projects. One week he might be in an Italian carpet factory, the next chasing down a cruise ship in Hong Kong, and then off to London for a meeting. While he occasionally protested that his work was more mundane than it seemed, his friends were convinced it was quite glamorous and exciting. He was, by all accounts, a brilliant designer with an unequalled eye and enthusiasm for beauty.

The Compass Rose, OZ, the Sitmar Line ships, the St. Francis and Fairmont Hotels, to name only a few, were recipients of his special talent.

Clive is survived by his loving family and many friends. A gathering of family, friends, and acquaintances will be held at the Comstock, 1409 Sutter St., on Tuesday, March 29, from 6 to 8 p.m. For further information call Jean-Yves at 550-0600, or Peter at 864-0295.

Clifford Wayne Counts

Clifford Wayne Counts died peacefully, quietly, and joyously Saturday, March 19, at his home, surrounded by those he loved and who loved him.

Clifford was born June 28, 1950, in Harvey Illinois, and has been a resident of San Francisco since 1980. A free-lance stylist for commercial and fashion photography and film, Cliff was a specialist in makeup, hair, and humor.



He is survived by his mother, Lois Tentnowski, and step father Frank Tentnowski, of Posen, Illinois; his father, Robert Counts of Huntville, Alabama; his sisters Willa Pettice and Janie Counts; his brother Joe and sister-in-law Terry, all living in the Chicago area.

Services will be held at the Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 24, at 150 Eureka St., San Francisco.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Shanti Project of San Francisco, who helped him teach us the meaning of life and love.

Cliff lived each day to the fullest and he will be deeply missed.

Ed Stark Remembered With Bubbles

by Allen White

The bubble machine was pushed to its limit last Thursday night at The Special on Castro Street. It was the culmination of an evening to celebrate the life of Ed Stark.

Stark was known to many for his amazing performances as the prima ballerina of the Men Behind Bars shows. To others he was known as the owner of The Special.

Edwin L. Stark died Wednesday, March 9, as a result of heart failure from an AIDS-related illness. In a community where dy-

ing is a daily occurrence, the death of Stark was somehow different.

His death came less than one month after his appearance in the 1988 version of Men Behind Bars. He had been part of a family of performers who had been involved with the show since its inception.

It was his sense of the theatrical combined with his honest compassion and sensitivity which brought many of the friends of Ed Stark together last Thursday (Continued on next page)

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The next Practical Support Training begins Friday, April 8th. The next Emotional Support Training begins Friday, April 29th.



Atlanta Gays Gamble on Gore; Win 3 Delegates

ATLANTA—Georgia, heart of the Democratic Party's deep-South vote and smack in the middle of the Bible Belt, will send three gay delegates to the Democratic National Convention this year in Atlanta. Delegates Dick Rhodes and Melinda Daniels are pledged to Democratic Sen. Albert Gore, Jr., the southern conservative from nearby Tennessee. By the time all the votes were counted on Super Tuesday, lesbians and gay men owned two of Gore's three delegates and his only alternate from Atlanta.

Mobilized by LEGAL (Legislative Equality for Gays and Lesbians) for the Jan. 30 delegate selection caucuses, gay people streamed into the state's largest enclave of registered voters, bloc-voted their slate, and came away from Atlanta's Congressional Districts 4 and 5 with five of Gore's 11 delegate hopefuls there. Gays turned out in such force that, to win Gore's top delegate position in District 4, they did not even need to join forces with the large Georgia Nurses Association contingency, which made a last-minute plea for coalition.

Long-time Democratic Party activists were stunned. Some were angry, but most admitted it was grassroots politics at its classic best. "This is the emergence of LEGAL and the gay and lesbian vote as a political power to be reckoned with in the State of Georgia," proclaimed a jubilant Lee Harrington, president of LEGAL.

"Today we proved the system can be forced to work, even for gays and lesbians, if we only get involved and organize," Harrington said. "I have been through this before; my excitement comes now from watching the new people see it work—LEGAL's volunteer force has increased by eight times. I have never been more proud of our community," he said.

Rhodes declared, "They're

gonna hear from the gay vote in Georgia!"

LEGAL's Count-Down Committee chair, Tim Forshay, analyzed, "I believe the October 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights galvanized the community and helped make that incredible early-Saturday-morning turnout possible Jan. 30."

The significance of bloc-voting and the value of a single vote were never more obvious. LEGAL's strategy: Gore would do well here on Super Tuesday; therefore, gays would do well to pin their delegate hopes on him Jan. 30. It worked.

With the element of surprise and a button-sporting, banner-waving flair for the dramatic, the gays all signed in for Gore at the last minute, and then proceeded to win his delegate positions 1, 3 and 4 in District 4 (losing position 2 by only one vote) and positions 3 and 5 in District 5 (losing position 1 by only seven votes).

Out of 70,110 ballots cast in District 4 and after four lead changes, Gore edged Jesse Jackson by 155 votes (21,461 to 21,306), giving the gays their landslide victories there.

Rhodes is a real estate agent who is in the position 1 delegate slot for Gore; Melinda Daniels, a paralegal, is Gore's position 3 delegate; and Paul Garrard, a financial aid officer, is Gore's only



The Georgia delegates for Gore

alternate. Gore's position 2 delegate, a straight woman, pledged her support for the gays' civil rights agenda. Jackson and Dukakis received one delegate each.

Jackson swept all six of the delegates in District 5. Gays came out in force back on Jan. 30 there, also, but not in nearly large enough numbers to gamble on beating out other Jackson delegates.

"All of our 26 delegate applicants for all seven presidential candidates and all of our bloc-voters deserve the credit; they made it all happen," Harrington stated. LEGAL had strategically placed 21 other gays as delegate participants—for Babbitt, Dukakis, Gephardt, Hart, Jackson and Simon—so that any Jan. 30 scenario it chose would produce lesbian and gay delegates.

Clinic Helps Women

Do you ignore your own health needs because it is too expensive or you can't take off work? The Women's Clinic at Health Center 5, 1351 24th Ave., can help you meet your needs and health concerns.

There are day and evening appointments available. Services include pap smears, pelvic and breast examinations, family planning methods, pregnancy testing, and screening for sexually transmitted diseases, with some treatment provided. Fees range from zero to \$27, based on a sliding scale.

Please call 661-4400 to make an appointment. Public transportation to the center includes the N-Judah streetcar and bus lines 29, 71, 72, and 16X.

Stark

(Continued from previous page)

at the San Francisco Columbarium Chapel. The structure was warmed on a rather chilled night by many of his friends, who gathered for a time to "celebrate the joy" of Stark's life.

The masterminds of the event were many of the people Ed Stark worked within the Men Behind Bars show. Mark Abramson, a co-producer of Men Behind Bars and a bartender at Stark's Special bar, was the primary spokesperson at the event.

As people entered the columbarium they were treated to a choice of music designed to be anything but funeral. The music of Whitney Houston, Michael Feinstein, and others seemed to gently bounce off the walls, which contained urns of other departed San Franciscans.

Abramson talked of his frustration with Ed Stark's ability to "somehow always to be right about everything." He talked about how it was to work at The Special and how Stark was always a person willing to listen to any story from a patron.

Others talked about the performances each year in the Pacific Ballet production of *The Nutcracker*. In addition to the humorous treatment given to ballet at the Men Behind Bars show, Ed Stark was warmly appreciated and highly respected for his work in the local efforts to promote ballet.

Sitting in the first row of seats, surrounded by friends, was Ed Stark's lover Richard Howe.

Others in the audience were softball players from the Gay Softball League. Many remembered the support Stark had given the GSL and the Nothing Special team he had sponsored.

For most, though, it was his performances in Men Behind Bars which would be remembered. Jim Cvitanich, also a co-producer of the show, said, "He was wonderful because he would take his number and choreograph it himself."

Cvitanich remembers his performance in this year's show. "Ed was sick," Cvitanich said, and, "He knew it and Mark and I knew it. It was one of those show-must-go-on stories. Some people need to perform."

Several people mentioned that Stark simply forced himself to do the show. Many backstage were aware that he was running a high temperature during each performance of Men Behind Bars.

Following the memorial service, many of the people continued the celebration of Stark's life at his Castro Street bar. One of Stark's last requests was that the bar not close on his account. For that reason, the bar stayed open through the day.

Mark Abramson pointed out that Stark had an ability to always wish for the spectacular for his part of the Victoria Theatre show. One year he flew through the air. Another year there were fog machines.

For this last show, it was decided to use a bubble machine. "Somehow we never got around to using a bubble machine for his number," Abramson remembers. As people were leaving the Columbarium Chapel they walked through bubbles. When they arrived at The Special they were greeted by the bubble machine.

The bubbles made a statement that this was a celebration, a significant celebration, that seemed to capture how the many friends of Ed Stark chose for him to be remembered.

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BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS



Take Back the Day

While it wasn't exactly an overflow crowd, the rally that culminated UC Berkeley's Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Awareness Week March 16 was a spirited one
(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)



E.B. AIDS Fund Facing Crisis

The AIDS Project of the East Bay is currently facing a crisis of inadequate Emergency Fund resources as local client numbers and needs continue to grow, according to executive director Philip Tsui.

"As of Jan. 31, Alameda County had counted almost 550 diagnosed PWA's in residence, nearly 60 percent of whom have died," Tsui said recently. "The caseload for agencies such as ours is expanding very rapidly. By the end of June we will have seen about 500 clients in just the prior twelve-month period, including not just PWA's and PWARCs but also their friends, family members and lovers. Community donations have adequately supported the Emergency Fund in the past. But given the escalating numbers of new clients, the demand for services is beginning to far outstrip our current resources."

Emergency Funds are used at the AIDS Project to support a variety of client needs. One critical program supported by the fund is the Project's Food Bank, which offers nutritionally

balanced, easily accessed groceries for those too financially impoverished or ill to adequately provide for themselves and their dependent loved ones.

The Emergency Fund also supports the availability of free transportation services for clients needing assistance in getting to medical appointments and support group meetings. It also provides for limited monetary disbursements providing crisis aid in meeting rent, utility or other essential payments; and miscellaneous client emergency needs, including massage therapy and hot meal deliveries.

Tsui commented that the Project's Emergency Fund programs are essential "because they fill gaps in the services available for PWAs, PARCs and their loved ones in Alameda County. They often serve as the only crisis intervention available in some circumstances, and many clients are dependent on these services."

While the Project is developing plans for expanding its future fundraising efforts, Tsui says the immediate crisis "may have a

serious temporary effect on the amount of emergency support we can offer clients. What we need now is all the support our community can muster."

Persons interested in contributing to the Project with donations or volunteer work can call (415) 420-8181, or write to the AIDS Project of the East Bay, Box 908, Berkeley, CA 94701.

Founded in 1981, The AIDS Project of the East Bay is a program of the Pacific Center for Human Growth, a nonprofit community-based organization. The Project's services include volunteer counseling, advocacy, emergency resources and referrals for People with AIDS and ARC, their friends, family and lovers. The Project's education department provides crucial information on AIDS transmission and prevention to a wide spectrum of health workers and other community interest groups. Its HIV and worried well services include counseling, education and support groups focusing on testing and virus-positivity issues.

Living Responsibly

San Jose State University Student Mobilization Against AIDS announces its AIDS Educational Campaign for the Spring Semester. This Campaign is entitled "93/0—Living Responsibly." Fortunately AIDS is a preventable disease. It is the goal of this campaign to provide the students with the knowledge of how to prevent this disease. Based on a five-year incubation period, this campaign will be successful if in 1993 there are zero cases of AIDS among people who attended San Jose State in 1988. Following is a schedule of the major events of this campaign: April 20-24: Production of Stage Play *Warren*. Written by Rebecca Ranson and directed by Michael Kearns; May 1: 10K Run-a-thon.



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BASH #2 Gutted by Fire

BENISON INCOGNITA?
(An Anxious Nose)

Bay Area Sheppard House #1 is completed. Months of loving, involved labor burst forth in bloom to the delight of the patient and persistent cultivators. Five tenants moved into the "homey" atmosphere at 2933 McClure, Oakland. All was right with the world.

Plans had been made to start immediately on the larger house next door. All sorts of tools, equipment, materials, and excess furnishings were moved from House #1 to House #2. It would be just a matter of days before the first hammer, wrench, and brush

made their initial attempts at refurbishing phase two.

Several of BASH's pacesetters had just settled down for a fantastic repast at Sammy's Sweetheart Dinner at Town & Country. Then the call came at approximately 8:15 p.m. on Saturday, March 19. BASH House #2 was aflame! A faulty furnace near the front door is thought to be the culprit.

The OFD arrived after being notified by residents of BASH House #1, but were unable to save the structure. It was completely gutted. Gone was the second dream. Gone were the tools, equipment, materials, and excess furnishings. Gone was the merri-



What was to have been BASH #2 is now just a shell of its former self (Photo: G. Reuss)

guesses. Just in case there might be a tie, a random drawing will be held.

PASTICHE
(A Bits and Pieces Nose)

It was certainly non-stop for all concerned with Big Mama's 10th anniversary party last weekend. The festivities culminated Sunday with Marga Gomez, Danny Williams, Bob Sandner, Daddy David's fabulous buffet, and E.C. Scott and Smoke. Michael Gareer came out with a wonderful line Friday night when he was talking about Katharine Hepburn: "At least there is one good thing about having Alzheimer's disease. She's constantly meeting new people!" I guess you had to have been there.

Look for some big chances in the next few weeks at Big Mama's. Zephyr Jim has sold his share of the business and is going to "retire" to Kauai later this year with Rick. Nothing definite as to who the new manager will be and exactly what changes will occur.

Those who partook of T&C's St. Patrick's Day lunch didn't have the pleasure of being waited upon by "Estella." She did that gig for the evening's offering. Someone has hinted that she just may make a guest appearance at the April Floozie's Day fete. T&C Dollies, the Revolettes, and "Estella," too? It boggles the mind.

The guest M.C. for the April Floozie's Day, Dickie Vader, can't be in two places at the same time, soooooo guess who has been asked to fill in as assistant M.C.? No, not Geraldo Rivera!

Don't forget Sienna Productions' Apollo West, a benefit for the In-Memory Fund, at Bella Napoli, 2330 Telegraph, on Saturday, March 26. There will be two shows, one at 9:15 and the other at 11 p.m. Advance tickets are \$2; at the door, \$3.

Little Mother just may want to change her proposed date for her latest auction Saturday, May 14, at the Turf Club. According to I.S.E.'s calendar of events, they have a Black & White Ball that same evening. With such items as a baby grand piano, a computer, and that organ, I should imagine she'd want all the bidders she can get.

Bench & Bar continues its Male Strip Shows every other Wednesday and the Variety Shows every other Sunday. The dinners are still going from 6 to 10 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays.

Look out, Oakland! "Witches in White" hits the boards Saturday, April 9. Check the posters for time and location.

Don't call me a senior citizen, over the hill, or even an old-timer. There's a new term to describe us mature persons. I now consider myself a keen-ager! Now that's something to smile about! Love, Nez.



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ment of the evening—temporarily.

After the initial shock began to subside, one had to realize that the fates work in mysterious ways, and there is always a silver lining on the cloud of gray. No one was living there, so there were no injuries—save for caretaker Roger, who had to bolt through a window to safety. Minor cuts, burns, and bruises were taken care of at a local hospital.

BASH is not financially responsible for the loss. BASH House #1 was left unscathed. And, according to reports, the condition of #2 would have involved twice—perhaps thrice—the work required for #1.

Tools and equipment can be replaced. Materials and furnishings can be obtained again. The zeal and verve that went into the first house didn't go up in smoke with the second. Forces will be regrouped and new plans made. BASH will continue its efforts. But one just has to ponder, "Why did it have to happen?" Several believe it was intended as a blessing in disguise. Perhaps that's true, but it certainly wasn't the best way to spend one's first Saturday night off in many months, right, Mama Chuckles?

Terry rushed to the scene in order to calm the five tenants in BASH #1. The five, ironically, had to calm her. They were "cool as cucumbers," enjoying their spaghetti dinner and glasses of red wine, perhaps because they knew the love and affection that went into #1 would protect them from harm. Maybe they were right.

There will be a grand opening of BASH House #1 Sunday, March 27, from 4 to 7 p.m. at 2933 McClure (it runs between 29th and 30th Sts.) in Oakland. Champagne and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

AICH EXORDIUM
(A "Nose Plug" Nose)

The Adult Immunology Clinic at Highland General Hospital will officially open Tuesday, March 29. It will be a specialized outpatient clinic dedicated to the treatment of adult patients with AIDS, ARC, and complications of HIV virus infection.

Community groups lobbied successfully for the establishment of the clinic and culminated with the Alameda County Board of Supervisors' allocation of \$50,000 in startup funds. These groups included East Bay AIDS Resource Organization, Alameda County Black AIDS Coalition, SEIU 616, Vote Health Coalition, and Highland health care workers.

Edward Allen Seidel, M.D., was hired in November 1987 to serve as the clinic's director and physician. He has spearheaded the implementation of the first dedicated AIDS program at Highland. Dr. Seidel recently stated, "Highland Hospital is a key player in the changing face of the AIDS epidemic we are facing in northern Alameda County and beyond. . . . Because Highland Hospital's traditional patient population includes a large proportion of medically underserved as well as minority individuals, we see our main purpose to be the creation of programs which best serve the needs of these groups."

The services of AICH are available to any adult patient regardless of his/her ability to pay. The clinic is open on Wednesdays for scheduled appointments, starting at 12 p.m., and is located on the third floor of the clinic building at Highland General Hospital, 1411 E. 31st St., Oakland. For additional information, call AICH at 437-4805.

PANNIER/PUGGREE
PENTATHLON
(A Rotogravure Nose)

The Imperial Star Empire and Empress IX Tootsi will present an Easter Basket/Bonnet Contest and Auction Saturday, April 2, at 8 p.m. at Town & Country.

There will be prizes for first, second, and third places, with the proceeds from the auction going to I.S.E. and Easter Baskets for Bay Area AIDS Patients. There will also be raffle prizes, with tickets selling three for \$1.

Results of the "Guess Who? Baby Picture Contest" will be announced at this event. There will be a prize for the most correct

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Golden Gate Theatre

THIS



Linda Hill will give her farewell performance at the Great America Music Hall March 31 (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

FRIDAY 25

- **Black Elegance:** an evening of food and music, Green Room, War Memorial Building, S.F., 8 PM, \$15. To benefit the Names Project, Project Open Hand, and the Lyon-Martin Clinic. Buffet, no-host bar, and an opportunity to mingle with international leather women the night before the finals of the 1988 Intl. Ms Leather contest. Call 863-9413 for tickets.
- **Going To Seed:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$12. Three generations of women in a black family find the ties that bind unravelling in this comedy about family life, traditional values, and coming out: written by Eve Powell, directed by Kenneth R. Dixon.
- **Puttin' On The Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 9 and 11 PM, \$10. Call 788-8379 for reservations.
- **Fools Rush Inn:** stage performance, Studio Eremos, Project Artaud, 401 Alabama St., S.F., 8 PM, \$8. A new play by Joe Besecker produced by J.B. Enterprises and directed by Michael Lilly. Call 626-6715 for tickets.
- **A Portrait of Oscar Wilde:** stage performance, Music Hall Theatre, 931 Larkin St., S.F., 8 PM, \$20. Lighthouse Entertainment presents Steve Alexander's three-act drama on the ill-fated poet. Call 776-8996 for tickets.
- **Uniform Night:** sponsored by the Bay Area Brigade of the American Uniform Association, S.F. Eagle, 398 12th St., S.F., 8-11 PM. Full uniform is encouraged.
- **Motherlode:** music, Sisterspirit Coffeehouse, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, doors open 8 PM, concert begins 8:30 PM, \$5-\$8 sliding scale. Contemporary acoustical folk music.
- **Club Infra-Red:** dancing, Scooters, 22 4th St., S.F., 9 PM-2 AM, cover. Sound by Randy Schiller. Call 777-0880 for more information.
- **Pagan Faery Piercing Ritual:** open to men and women who want to explore permanent piercing as a spiritual act of transformation, healing, and growth, 7 PM to midnight. Special guest piercer Fakir Musafar; call 621-6294 for more information.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** game fest, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM, \$5 non-members, refreshments. Call 641-0999 for more information.
- **Black and White Men Together:** poetry reading, 3135 Courtland, Oakland, 7:30 PM. Call 261-7922 for more information.
- **Rite For The Times:** Eastern Orthodox healing service, Holy Ascension Parish, 1671 Golden Gate Ave., No. 2, S.F., 7 PM. Call 626-2885 or 563-8514 for more information.

SATURDAY 26

- **International Ms Leather Contest:** second annual, Gift Center Pavilion, 888 Brannan St., S.F., 8 PM, \$25, \$30, and \$50. Sluts From Hell will emcee; vocal entertainment by Deena Jones. Tickets at Headlines, Mr. S Leather, and the Sandmopia Supply Co. To benefit Project Open Hand, The Names Project, and the Lyon-Martin clinic. Call 863-1386 or 863-9413 for more information.

- **Take 2: Music From The Silver Screen:** the S.F. Gay Men's Chorus salutes Hollywood's musical heyday, Mission High School, 18th and Church sts., S.F., 8 PM, \$10, \$12, \$15, or \$20 in advance (call 863-8326); \$12, \$14, \$17, or \$22 at the door. Including songs from Noel Coward, Leonard Bernstein, Gilbert & Sullivan, and the Disney Studios, the performance will also feature Men About Town and CoLA of Los Angeles.
- **Disco Diva II:** sponsored by Black and White Nationality Supporters, Warehouse Cabaret, 18th and San Pablo, Oakland, 9 PM, \$10.50 in advance, \$12 at the door. Tickets at All American Boy and Headlines. Call 923-9389 for more information.
- **L.A. Sundevils vs. S.F. Trojans:** flag football, 2 PM, free. Call 821-1851 or 431-4077 for location.
- **Club Infra-Red:** dancing (see Friday listing for details).
- **Going To Seed:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Puttin' On The Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys (see Friday listing for details).
- **Fools Rush Inn:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **A Portrait of Oscar Wilde:** stage performance, 2 and 8 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Piercing Clinic:** Mr. S Leathers, 227 7th St., S.F., noon to 5 PM. Call 863-7764 for more information.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays:** game fest, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM, \$5 for non-members, refreshments. Call 641-0999 for more information.
- **Girth and Mirth Club of S.F.:** St. Patrick's Day dinner party, De Marcos Restaurant, Brisbane, no-host bar 7 PM, dinner 8 PM, \$10. Call 820-2597 or 334-5971 for more information.
- **1988 AIDS Bike-A-Thon:** registration rally, 18th and Castro Sts., S.F., noon. Bring your bike.
- **Different Spokes/San Francisco:** East Bay mountain bike ride. Meet at the Rockridge BART station at 10:30 AM. Strenuous (10 miles on paved road and 10 miles on dirt); bring lunch and drink. Helmets recommended; rain cancels.
- **S.F. Hiking Club:** exploratory hike in Sunol Regional Wilderness Park. Meet under the big Safeway sign at Market and Dolores, S.F., at 9 AM to carpool. Bring lunch and canteen (good hiking boots a must); rain cancels.
- **EastBay FrontRunners:** run from Marina Green to Ft. Point. Meet at the intersection of Marina Blvd. and Scott St. at 9:30 AM. Up to four miles; flat. Call 939-3579 or 261-3246 for more information.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Meet at Stowe Lake Boathouse in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 9 AM. No-host brunch follows; beginners welcome. Call 922-1435 or 821-3719 for more information.
- **Different Spokes/San Francisco:** decide and ride. Meet at 1 PM at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, S.F., to decide on a ride.
- **Partners (Scotch) Pool:** \$7 entry fee includes well drink, beer, or wine, Overpass, 482-A Hayes, S.F., 8 PM. S.F. Pool Association 8-Ball rules apply; call 864-6672 for more information.
- **Gourmet Vegetarian Potluck:** 7 PM in S.F. Call 775-6143 for more information.
- **Finding The Right Man:** one-day workshop in S.F., \$25. Sponsored by the Partners Institute; call 343-8541 for more information.

SUNDAY 27

- **Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center:** anniversary reception and benefit, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 2-5 PM, \$20, refreshments provided; open house 5-8 PM, free, refreshments available. San Jose City Councilwoman Susan Hammer will appear; photography retrospective by Ted Sahl. Call (408) 293-AGAY for more information.
- **Mr. Drummer San Jose:** contest, Club St. John, 170 W. St. John St., San Jose, doors open 4 PM, contest begins 6:30 PM, \$2. Call (408) 947-1667 for more information.
- **Going To Seed:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Puttin' On The Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, 8 PM, \$8 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Portrait of Oscar Wilde:** stage performance, 2 and 7 PM, \$18 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Menage:** music, Big Mama's Cabaret, 22615 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 5 pm, no cover. The octet from the S.F. Lesbian/Gay Chorus in a return engagement.
- **Stephen Herrick Sextet:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM, \$5. Latin jazz and pop with Clairede.
- **Seth Montfort:** the complete works for solo piano performed by the composer, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 4 and 8:30 PM, \$5. Also featuring Cynthia Prior, soprano, and Alexandra Nehra, mezzo-soprano.
- **Variety Show:** singing, dancing, and impersonations, Bench and Bar, 120 11th St., Oakland, 10 PM. Call 444-2266 for more information.
- **Joy Michiel:** music, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 5 PM, \$5.

WEEK

- **Aldo Antonio Bell and Solomon Rose:** music, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6.
- **Lon Nungesser:** will read his book, *An Epidemic of Courage*, and sign copies of his new novel, *Notes On Living Until We Say Goodbye*, A Different Light, 489 Castro St., S.F., 7:30 PM, free. Call 431-0891 for more information.
- **S.F. Bay Area Gay and Lesbian Historical Society:** screening of video documentaries, Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 4 PM, \$5. *Testing The Limits, Legislation Is Only the Beginning*, and *Gay Greenwich Village* will be screened.
- **Rainbow Deaf Society:** AIDS fundraiser, The Hearing Society, 20 10th St., S.F., 1-6 PM, \$6. With Harry Britt, Carol Ruth Silver, and a slide show on the March on Washington.
- **Piercing Clinic:** Image Leather, 2199 Market St., S.F., noon to 5 PM. Call 621-7751 for more information.
- **Arcadia Bodybuilding Society:** seminar on nutrition and vitamin supplements, City Athletic Club, 2500 Market St., S.F., 6:30-8:30 PM, \$5. Call 431-6254 for more information.
- **S.F. Hiking Club:** hike to the top of Montara Mtn. Meet under the big Safeway sign at Market and Dolores, S.F., at 9:45 AM. Bring lunch, water, and a jacket; heavy rain cancels.
- **S.F. FrontRunners:** Golden Gate Heights run. Meet at King Dr. and 7th Ave., S.F., at 10 AM for a four-mile run. Call 922-1435 or 821-3719 for more information.

- **Hit The Road Show:** gala evening of song, dance, and laughter to kick off the national tour of the Memorial AIDS Quilt, Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Ave., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$10, \$20, \$35, and \$100. With Gwen Avery, Pat Wilder, David Canfield, The Flips, the S.F. Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps, Danny Williams, Marga Gomez, and the casts of *American Juke Box*, *Beach Blanket Babylon*, *Bittersuite*, *End of the World With Symposium to Follow*, *Greater Tuna*, *Lady Day*, *Party of One*, and *Puttin' On The Glitz*. Tickets at STBS and BASS.
- **Yoni: Women Loving Women:** an evening of lesbian erotic readings by Sandy Boucher, Nisa Donnelly, Stephanie Henderson, and Mary Nordseth, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM, free.
- **Lust In The Dust:** film, Bench and Bar, 120 11th St., Oakland, 7 PM. Call 444-2266 for more information.
- **I'm Still Alive: A Person With AIDS Tells His Story:** television documentary on channel 9, KQED, 10:30-11:30 PM. San Franciscan Peter S. reflects on dying, loving, and living with insight, candor, and humor.
- **The Buddy Connection:** safe sex workshop for gay and bisexual men, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7-10 PM. Call 863-AIDS for more information.
- **Leathermen's/SM Support Group:** meeting, Room 204, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30 PM.
- **S.F. Jacks:** 5th anniversary jack-off, 890 Folsom St., S.F., doors open 7:30-8:30 PM, \$5.
- **Gay Artists and Writers Collective:** meeting, 7:30 PM. Call 585-8814 for more information.
- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** support group for older gay men (60+), Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-8:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.

TUESDAY 29

- **In The Spotlight:** show, B Street, 236 S. B St., San Mateo, 9:30 PM-12:30 AM. The bar provides musical backing tracks and words to all the songs and you supply the voice to receive a free cassette recording of your performance.
- **A Portrait of Oscar Wilde:** stage performance, \$18 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Samba Pagode:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 9 PM-midnight, no cover. Samba; plus videos from Rio.
- **Gay Artists and Writers Collective:** meeting, 7:30 PM in S.F. Call 585-8814 for more information.
- **Metaphysical Alliance:** meeting, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 6:45 PM. Dave Braun will speak on practical tools for metaphysical healing. Call 431-8708 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 30

- **Marga Gomez, Don Stevens, and Steve Bruner:** comedy, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 8-10 PM, \$3.
- **Trixie:** music, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 9 PM-1 AM. Call 431-0253 for more information.
- **Going To Seed:** stage performance, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).
- **A Portrait of Oscar Wilde:** stage performance, \$18 (see Friday listing for details).

THURSDAY 31

- **Gone, But Not Forgotten:** comedy with Linda Hill, Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10. Farewell performance.
- **Going To Seed:** stage performance, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Puttin' On The Glitz:** with female impersonators and cabaret guys, 9 PM, \$8 (see Friday listing for details).
- **A Portrait of Oscar Wilde:** stage performance, \$18 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Black and White Men Together:** rap, 1350 Waller St., S.F., 7:30 PM. This week's topic is "AIDS In The Tenderloin." Call 931-BWMT for more information.
- **E.T.V.C. Fashionable Easter Parade:** watch a bevy of beauties from the friendly transgender group strut their stuff, 8 PM in S.F. Call 585-5204 for more information.
- **San Francisco MCC:** Maundy Thursday communion service, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30 PM. With readings by Anne Frank, James Baldwin, Radclyffe Hall, Martin Luther King, Jr., Harvey Milk, Audre Lorde, and Adrienne Rich.
- **AIDS Action Pledge:** meeting, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 821-9087 for more information.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** run. Meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park at 6:30 PM. Call 922-1435 or 821-3719 for more information.

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays.

MONDAY 28

- **A Special Evening to Benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund:** dinner and cabaret show presented by The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., dinner seating 6:30 PM, show begins 8 PM, \$25. With Danny Williams, Marga Gomez, Jae Ross, Valerie Quevedo, and Bob Bauer on the piano. Call 431-0253 for reservations.

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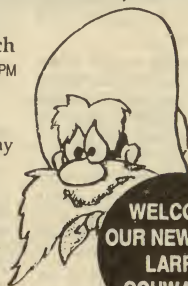
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BAY AREA REPORTER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Gay People Catch His Wrath, Too

Vito Russo Continues to Fight Hollywood's Homophobia

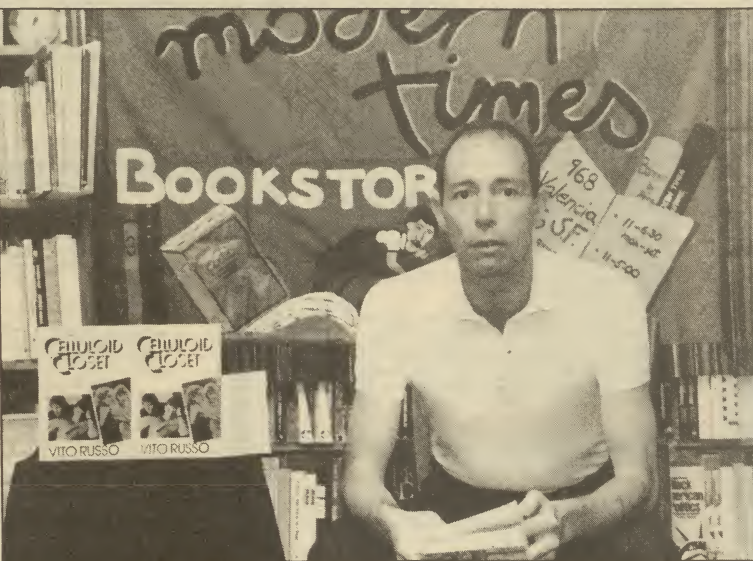
by David Perry

Vito Russo is angry. "I'm very disappointed in the gay community right now," says the author of *The Celluloid Closet—Homosexuality In The Movies*. "Gay people do not support the kinds of projects that would serve them well in terms of films. They put down their money for stuff which is blatantly insulting them and then they choose to ignore that aspect of it because they want to live in a fantasy world. I think that's very dangerous, especially now."

Russo leans back, lights a cigarette and smiles. At 41, he is the picture of activism, and loves it. He has never been one to hold back. Billie Holliday sings *The Man I Love* in the background. Books lie scattered about the table, and high upon a specially constructed perch in the corner is Oscar #2238.

Awarded to Russo's host, San Francisco filmmaker Robert Epstein for *The Life and Times of Harvey Milk* (1985), the present Oscar would seem to signal a culmination. Gay people do win Oscars. Soon boys and girls, all with same sex partners, will be merrily skipping down cinematic yellow brick roads everywhere. Russo sees that as overly optimistic and only half true.

"The turning point was when *Harvey* won the Oscar," Russo grants. "It became clear to people that there was some value to working hard to raise money to make an independent film with a gay theme. Recent independent films like *Desert Hearts*, *Parting Glances* and *My Beautiful Laundrette*, made a substantial amount of money. They didn't make a fortune, but they made enough to make their filmmakers viable for another product."



Vito Russo signed copies of his book at Modern Times recently

(Photo: S. Savage)

A DIFFERENT EXPLOSION

And making money is what it's all about. Make no mistake. As far as Hollywood is concerned, until gay pictures make money, we won't see any big budget gay *Gone With The Winds*.

Russo admits that the current state of motion pictures dealing in some fashion with homosex-

uality amounts to an "explosion" of sorts. He revised *The Celluloid Closet* to include them. However, he calls the explosion "tenuous" noting that they were all small independent films. Their success was as much a surprise to their makers as it was to the general public.

Russo still sees Hollywood's big-budget portrayals of gays as majoritively "negative"—a fact which does not surprise him. What angers him more is the indisputable fact that gay people pay money for the insult.

"Most gay people don't care," he says. "They support the kinds of movies that insult them, because they are unconscious. You talk to a gay person about the film *No Way Out* and they'll say 'Oh, but it was a good movie.' The homosexual character is a villain who gets blown away in the end, and there's a line about how if the Bible is right he'll be damned, which reinforces the religious prejudices of its targeted audience. *Baby Boom* has a gratuitous throwback to the fey 1930s faggot waiter. *Teen Wolf*, *Night Shift*, *St. Elmo's Fire*, all

the Brat Pack movies, all the *Porky's* movies, the *Meatball* movies, all of Eddie Murphy's concert movies, even *Good Morning Vietnam*. You don't go to a movie today where there is not at least one fag joke. And I don't think people react in any way to this."

ACCEPTED PREJUDICE

What does Russo say to those who characterize such criticisms as overly strident? Aren't such references just meant in fun? It is just such reactions that make Russo's blood boil. Russo insists, and the evidence is overwhelming, that homophobia is alive and well and living in Hollywood. It is the last accepted film prejudice.

"Yes," Russo says, "Absolutely. Because even though people might be racist or anti-Semitic they would never say such things in public on the screen. But they will say homophobic things on the screen because they know that it is tacitly accepted, that it's all right to insult homosexuals. And after all, no one complains. Gay people in the audience don't complain. The critics don't complain. People in Hollywood don't complain. So why should they stop?"

Russo does single out some critics for their awareness in this area. "Surprisingly, it is most often the straight critics that do complain," he notes. "David Denby of New York Magazine is one of the natural allies of gay people, of black people. He's highly conscious politically, very intelligent, and always manages

(Continued on page 36)

Porn Star Propels Fans Into Fantasyland

by Allen White

Super porn star Jeff Stryker drew a standing-room-only crowd for over ten hours last Friday and again Saturday at the grand opening of the New Campus Theatre. The newly remodeled Jones Street theater was a collage of gay men indulging in their fantasies.

Stryker presented a similar show at each of three performances. He was first introduced by theater manager Steve Brackens. He then walked out on a runway, fully clothed. After talking for a few moments, he then started to dance.

As he danced, he took off his shirt, revealing his extraordinary body. He then moved through the theater, allowing those who got close to reach and grab for any part of his body they could. Following the brief dance number, he went to the lower lounge level, where he signed autographs, talked to his fans and was available for pictures.

Michael Franks, one of the Campus Theatre's performers, spent time with Stryker in the performer's dressing room. "He was very polite," Frank said.

"Usually stars are very stuck up. He is really nice."

It was the audience that really showed their enthusiasm for the superstar. "Awesome" is how David Phillips described the event. "The whole experience was awesome, but especially Jeff Stryker. I must have seen the first photograph ever taken of him, and I've been devoted to him ever since."

Phillips was in the theater for almost ten hours each day. "I bought a video, two photographs. I'm devoted, and I want to marry him. I keep giving him notes. So far it's unrequited love."

Two lovers, Dan and Frank from San Francisco, attended together. "This is a great opportunity to meet him in person. I have been a fan since his first video came out. I think the event was great, and the high point was getting an autograph from Jeff," Dan said.

They noted that Jeff Stryker said, "The most requested line I get asked to write is 'Tighten that ass.'" They laughed and said,

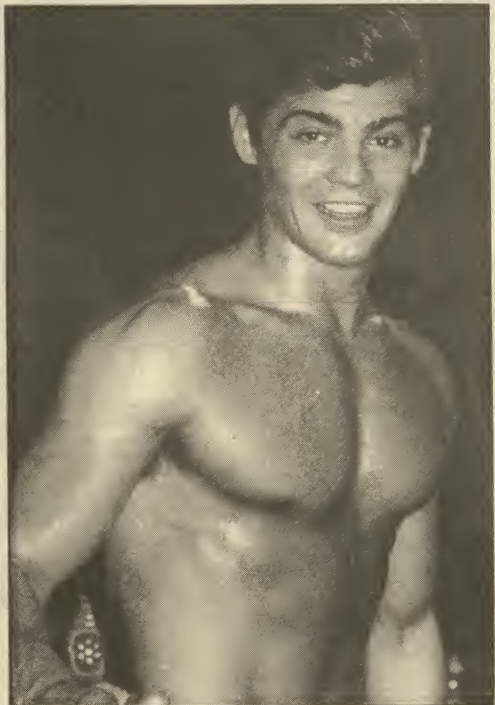
"He sure must get tired of writing 'Tighten that ass.'" The phrase is from one of his films.

Mark Henson was one of several people who drove to San Francisco from Napa Valley to see the porn star. "I was at the bottom of the stage. I had seen a lot of his movies and thought he looked good, so I thought I would see him in person." As Stryker danced, he reached down and touched Henson. Remembering the moment, Henson said, "He looked pretty good, he touched me, so it's cool. He reminds me of a guy who played on my football team, so he will always be special." Henson played for Napa High School.

One of those who saw Stryker was Dan Dibble, who went to the Campus for the first time Friday night with his lover Scott. "Actually, I work around the corner at the Golden Gate, and we always thought about coming in here, and tonight we came in, and it was enjoyable."

Dibble called Stryker "one of my favorite porn people. He is very cute and an inspiration to us

(Continued on page 36)



Jeff Stryker

(Photo: S. Martin)

Peninsula Musicals Feature SF Cabaret Stars

by Joseph W. Bean

Two musicals down south, on the peninsula, are featuring San Francisco cabaret/cabaret-theatre stars. Mikio Hirata is at TheatreWorks in Palo Alto performing in Stephen Sondheim's *Pacific Overtures*. Anne Tofflemire and Jae Ross are in the San Jose Civic Light Opera's production of *Peter Pan*.

HIRATA IN SONDHEIM

Pacific Overtures, far from becoming old-hat, has grown more powerfully relevant over the 12 years since it first toured America. The musical tells the stories of Japanese lives changed and lost in the aftermath of U.S. Commodore Perry's arrival in 1853. He said he was making "pacific overtures" but he had four "black dragons," or war ships on hand to back up his request that the Japanese open their ports to trade with the West.

The political, cultural, and personal turmoil in 1853 and their modern fallout are portrayed in moving tableaux that were called "American Kabuki" by Harold Prince when he was directing the original production. TheatreWorks has honored the style of the original staging, and done a beautiful job with the look, sound, and moods of this still very unique piece of musical theater.

Many of the most moving moments in the current production belong to Mikio Hirata. He sings the roles of a thief in *Four Black Dragons*, and the Shogun's physician in *Chrysanthemum Tea*, the old man in *Someone In a Tree*, and the American admiral in *Please Hello*. He is also one of the Lords of the South, a singer in *Next*, and a British soldier in *Pretty Lady*.

With the exception of *Pretty Lady*, which didn't have the sweet, exotic flavor of the original, every one of Hirata's numbers is superbly performed. So, by the way, is almost every number in the show. TheatreWorks has made its reputation by doing good musical theatre very well, and that reputation will be extended by this stunningly mounted *Pacific Overtures*.

Hirata is not the only reason to go to Palo Alto for *Overtures*, but he would be reason enough. His special cabaret-developed sound serves him especially well in the haunting *Four Black Dragons*, a very dramatic number that gives him room to work up both character and voice.

The entire cast, featuring—in addition to Mikio Hirata—Francis Jue, David Lamm, and Lawrence Thoo is excellent. The production is sumptuous, particularly Fumiko Bielefeldt's costumes.

TOFFLEMIRE AND ROSS IN NEVERLAND

Peter Pan is one of those children's stories—like *The Wizard of Oz* and *The Little Prince*—that some adults avoid. Don't. Don't avoid any of these treasures just because you're grown up, and especially don't miss *Peter Pan* in San Jose CLO's perfectly polished production.

Anne Tofflemire, as Wendy, is an almost impossible idea. We know her from *Bittersuite*, *Sammy Cahn: Words and Music*, a solo act at the Plush Room, and lots of other thoroughly adult shows in the city. All the sophis-



Paul Ainsley as Captain Hook and Jae Ross as Smee in *Peter Pan*

tication, brass, and sensuality that smolder, or sometimes blaze in Tofflemire's usual style are completely absent in the character of Wendy. So much so that you might not even recognize Toff-

flemire in the role of Peter Pan's best girl friend.

Jae Ross as Smee, Captain Hook's first officer, is not so surprising, really. After all, anyone who could play Riff Raff in *The*

Rocky Horror Show (as Ross did here October, 1986) ought to be able to do Smee without even trying. Sadly, Smee doesn't have any juicy solos to show off Ross' wonderful voice. In fact, except

for Peter Pan, nobody gets any solos. Still, for the acting and for the bit of his singing we do get to hear, Ross is a treat in this show.

Actually, Cathy Rigby (the O-word gymnast turned actress-singer) is quite surprising as Peter Pan. She handles the music and the acting with far more skill than you would expect. In fact, I suspect she has actually deserved every acting award she has ever received. No matter how many times you've seen *Peter Pan*, musical or straight, it's time to see it again, right now. ●

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The Outsiders

The first film with a homosexual theme to be licensed by the government of Taiwan, *The Outsiders* was the sensation of the 1987 San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Film Festival. In this well-shot and well-paced suspense story, Ah-Ching, a young student thrown out of his house for being gay, is given shelter and guidance along with other young "strays" by fifty-ish photographer Yang and his longtime friend/landlady Lee Man-Hua. Director Yu Kan-Ping portrays Yang and Lee Man-Hua as caring providers to the boys, and a true sense of family develops among this group of social misfits. There are sub-plots about Ah-Ching's dangerous liaison with Wang Kei-Lung, who killed an earlier lover, and Yang's decision to open a trendy nightclub, but the prevailing narrative thread is Ah-Ching's relationship with his bitter, lonely father. *The Outsiders* (literally "the bastard children" in Chinese), based on a popular 1983 novel by Shang Yeong, offers a revealing look at gay life in Taiwan. In Chinese. Color. 35mm. 1986.

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STAGE

'What the Butler Saw'

Berkeley Rep Presents Orton's 'Relentless Satire'

by Robert Frank

In August of 1967, the shocking "Bad Boy of the British Theatre," Joe Orton, was bludgeoned to death by his lover and mentor, Kenneth Halliwell, who then killed himself. In the small room which the two men shared was the blood-splattered manuscript of Orton's last play, *What the Butler Saw*.

The Berkeley Repertory Theatre will present 51 performances of this "relentless satire," including four previews (March 25-29) before the official opening on March 30 at its 2025 Addison Street home in Berkeley. Tickets are available at the Berkeley Rep box office and at STBS in Union Square.

Director Albert Takazauckas refers to Orton's play as "a great, brilliant farce with sharp verbal wit." He says *Butler* is a satirical snipe at psychoanalysis in which "anything seemingly pointless has a point." One of the interesting aspects of *Butler*, according to the director, is that it is filled with innuendo, but "not one four-letter word."

Takazauckas proudly related that he's directing the original London script, not the Americanized Off-Broadway version, which Orton scholar John Lahr called a mutilation. Lahr added that the Americanized version "had devoured Orton without digesting him."

With the London script in use in Berkeley, it looks as if the cannibalism of New York will not happen. Instead, the Berkeley audience will be allowed to digest

Orton in a theatrically more edible fashion.

The play deals with a psychiatrist who runs a private sanitarium. He interviews a young woman for a secretarial position and manages to convince her to undress. His wife returns unexpectedly, followed by a pattern of denial and disrobement that is intensified by the arrival of a blackmailing bellhop, a government official who is himself certifiable, and an unwitting bobby ripe for abuse.

It is interesting to note that the first production of *Butler* in 1969, with muted text and some deletions, was scathingly denounced by most of the London press. There was a near-riot in the theater, despite the presence of such eminences as Sir Ralph Richardson and Coral Browne.

But since that night 19 years ago, Orton's reputation has improved. Acclaimed director Lindsay Anderson brought back *Butler* in 1975 with Orton's full text. London loved it. New York revivals of *Entertaining Mr. Sloane* (with Maxwell Caulfield looking good) and *Loot* (which received a bushel of Tony nominations in 1986) have helped raise curiosity about Orton. So has last year's brilliant film about Orton, *Pick Up Your Ears*.

And now Berkeley Rep is set to put on what some consider to be Orton's greatest work. We'll see if Orton's American cousins of the 1980s are ready to digest a full-course meal of Orton. •

MOVIES

Inside Taiwan With 'The Outsiders'

by Steve Warren

An audience favorite at last year's San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, Yu Kan-Ping's *The Outsiders*, is notable for a combination of incredibly good photography—especially the night scenes—and equally bad acting. It alternates between shots of a full moon, birds in flight, cityscape, garden in the rain, etc., and dramatic vignettes in which the actors are uniformly overwrought, by western standards.

The slender plot involves Li Ching, whose father throws him out for being gay. He joins three other boys (one of them played by a girl) taken off the streets by a kindly old queen they call Mommy Yang. The cooperative landlady provides a (second?) mother figure in what is effectively a gay youth center with a true sense of family.

This story is padded with songs and flashbacks to Li Ching's childhood with his little brother, Ti-Wa, and their bat-

tered mother. The two boys give the film's best performances in well-directed scenes suggesting budding incest. In the present, Li Ching has a romance with a mysterious young man who had killed his lover some ten years earlier.

A laughably bad effect that gives new meaning to the phrase "bleeding heart" and the histrionic acting style lend the first gay film from Taiwan an exotic quality, but in their more natural moments the actors could be gays anywhere. Young hustlers cruising a park called "The Office" could be on Polk Street, and there's even a Cafe Flore to give *The Outsiders* an inside track.

★ ★ 1/2
The Outsiders
March 25-31
Roxie Cinema
16th near Valencia
863-1087

South of Market Pick Up

David Gordon has become the most successful of the choreographers whose roots go back to 1960s post-modern dance experimentation centered around New York's Judson Church. He is the only member of that group to have created for a major ballet company, with two works in the repertory of American Ballet Theatre and one at Dance Theatre of Harlem. But it is in the dances he creates for his own company, the David Gordon/Pick Up Co., that Gordon's personal style is most evident.

The Gordon pieces I saw at Theatre Artaud last week (the run continues through this weekend) were both simpler and more theatrical than his earlier work has been described. As American audiences have broadened their appreciation for post-modern dance, Gordon's sensibility has perhaps met us halfway. His current format, with works made on a company of nine dances, isn't flashy enough to generate megahits nor outrageous enough to attract a cult following. But an evening with the Pick Up Co. is an extremely satisfying experience in which Gordon's temperament gently impresses itself upon one's consciousness as the evening progresses.

I arrived early at Theater Artaud and so was able to study the audience (The Modern Audience—an adventurous group, partial to denim and sweaters) and the theater, a former tin can factory between the Misson and Potrero



Valda Setterfield in David Gordon's *The Seasons*

districts. High black walls and ceiling lend a sense of infinite expansiveness to the space, and the stage floor, as deep as it is wide, frames and highlights the action like a life-sized picture tube.

The Artaud space is especially effective for David Gordon's company, whose attractive dancers work at a relatively calm pace that looks good at close range. (They perspire, but their movement looks unstrained.) The sense of accessibility is increased by one of Gordon's frequent de-

vices, an introductory monologue, usually humorous and usually spoken on tape by Valda Setterfield, Gordon's wife and leading dancer.

The Seasons begins this way, with Setterfield's wry, recorded commentary about the way summer prompts us to shed our clothes, revealing others' physical perfections and the speaker's perceived lack of them. Actually, Setterfield is a handsome, aristocratic-looking woman with ombre silver hair and a mellifluous British accent. Among the other

dancers, all much younger than she, Setterfield's presence makes a rather strong statement about the theatrical viability of older persons in dance.

Gordon's choreography challenges other assumptions as well, with democratic partnering strategies in which dancers of both sexes lift and support other dancers of their own as well as the opposite sex. Such interchangeable partnering is almost a necessity, given Gordon's style, in which balletic and modern dance movement are weighted with a dynamic rather like contact improvisation: one dancer's movement is intercepted and impacted by another dancer, altering the original impulse in a way that would have been impossible without the interaction. And though there are no frankly romantic same-sex duets, those moments are approached with considerable tenderness and respect, particularly when the women partner each other.

Gordon makes his only appearance of the evening in *The Seasons*, first as a soloist, bringing on with him a folding metal chair (one of his classic props), and later in a slow-motion promenade with Setterfield to an excerpt from Meyerbeer's ballet *Les Patineurs*. Gordon's participation makes for the oddest moments in his work: a deliberate, introspective way of moving is underscored by his inscrutable countenance, a stern mask softened by weary eyes, like Giancarlo Giannini. Elsewhere, the

piece exists in its own world, the dancers' dense interaction rotating on an axis of interdependent phrases, their patterns as intricate and inevitable as those of a Calder mobile. Gordon is an excellent craftsman.

Minnesota begins with another monologue by Setterfield, about the way people in small towns regard artistic self-discipline and criticism. This time she performs a solo dance against her own words, one of the most beautiful sections of the evening. The ensuing ensemble, to the first movement of the Mozart G Major Piano Concerto No. 17, is less hermetic than that of *The Seasons*, with a large section performed in a line facing the audience.

The world premiere, *Sang and Sang*, is the latest addition to Gordon's developing project, *United States*, of which *Minnesota* is also a part. *Sang and Sang* is inspired by San Francisco (or at least, by songs about San Francisco), and as such it was very warmly received here. You'd have to be a Judy Garland aficionado to understand the title, but the dance itself is the most accessible of the three. Its abstract final section, to the third movement of the above-mentioned Mozart concerto—transcribed for synthesizer—seemed too drastic a departure from the hammy opening section, all to popular music. But like Gordon's work, this was easy to watch.

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Verdi Big Trouble

Sometimes the people who are at the center of the opera world suffer from a peculiar form of myopia which prevents them from dealing with reality. Their passion for the art form and their personal zeal to bring certain projects to fruition conspire to cloud their vision. Since most general directors spend their intermissions either backstage or else privately entertaining donors, these people rarely get to witness the lurid spectacle of a disappointed, disenfranchised and disinterested audience voting with its feet.

Several years ago, the San Diego Opera attempted to make hay by relying on the operatic art form's most popular composer—Giuseppe Verdi—for box office sales. Within ten years, the company staged Verdi's *Attila*, *Un Giorno Di Regno*, *I Lombardi*, *Nabucco*, *Oberto*, *Rigoletto*, *Giovanna D'Arco*, *Falstaff*, *Il Trovatore*, *La Traviata* and *Aida*. While the company's commitment to the bulk of the Verdi repertoire represented an impressive artistic policy, box office statistics revealed that, although *Aida* had no problem selling tickets, when the rest of the Verdian literature was dangled in front of subscribers, San Diego's audiences were much more interested in going to the beach. The composer's early repertoire fascinated musicologists and hard-core opera queens. His earlier works brought snores of ennui from the population at large.

In January I had a chance to attend several performances at



Elizabeth Connell and Frederick Burchinal did their best to cope with the peculiar horrors of the Met's *Macbeth* production.

the Metropolitan Opera while the company was performing two of Verdi's early works, *Macbeth* and *Luisa Miller*, in repertoire. Although each of these operas is filled with beautiful music, to my

astonishment and profound distress I stood by the theatre's main entrance during each intermission and saw large numbers of ticket-buyers leave the auditorium before the performance had

ended. Their mass exodus resembled the proverbial parade of rats leaving a sinking ship. Two weeks later I seized a golden opportunity to confront the Met's general director, Bruce Crawford, about this perverse phenomenon.

Along with several other general directors, Crawford was appearing on a panel about "Maintaining Your Artistic Integrity" during Opera America's annual conference in Houston. After hearing plenty of high-minded references to how a general director's job should include "gathering the great chefs of opera together," I opined that the manager of a four-star restaurant boasting the world's great chefs might well worry that something was wrong with the service, cuisine or ambience of his establishment if he started to notice customers leaving after the salad had been served.

Crawford explained that many people find Debussy's *Pelleas et Melisande* a difficult opera to digest and, therefore, leave prior to its last act. However, when I challenged his rebuttal by pointing out that (a) his audience was leaving the Met before the performance was over night after night, regardless of the repertoire; (b) a substantial number of people were leaving the auditorium during the first rather than the last intermission; and (c) there was another opera company located 100 yards across Lincoln Center where the audiences had no problem staying in their seats for the entire performance—Crawford told me that I obviously didn't know what I was talking about.

No doubt the man was still recovering from the wounds inflicted by the New York Post's front-page headlines which, in the scummiest Rupert Murdoch tradition, had referred to the "curse of *Macbeth*" after a depressed voice teacher had catapulted himself off the Met's balcony rail and fallen to his death during the previous week's Saturday broadcast. However, I doubt that the 82-year-old man who committed suicide could have been inspired by the Met's production standards, for, as my companion remarked when we left the theatre following a performance of *Macbeth*, "Just imagine what this evening would have been like without Verdi!"

It strikes me as a sadly dangerous sign of the times that a freak suicide can generate more copy and media interest in the Metropolitan Opera than anything else the company has done since the start of the new year. But whose fault is that?

OUT, OUT, DAMNED SLOT!

It would be a cheap shot to suggest that Met management has embraced an artistic policy which rests on the theory that if the audience wants garbage, it deserves to have it served to them, for, as originally contracted, this season's revival of *Macbeth* was to have been quite a stellar affair. Unfortunately, a string of cancellations related to the impact of a weakened American dollar on European markets meant that, out of the original artistic lineup (Renata Bruson, Eva Marton, Samuel Ramey and conductor Giuseppe Sinopoli), only Ramey, who delivered a superbly musical performance as Banquo, honored his contract. The Met had to scramble for substitute artists, and the final results proved to be far less

impressive than the company's original plans.

Although baritone Frederick Burchinal did his best in the title role, pacing himself carefully and singing well, he was unable to generate major excitement at the performance I attended. As his scheming wife, soprano Elizabeth Connell (a formidable artist under most circumstances) delivered a portrayal of Lady Macbeth which was acceptable, but hardly riveting. Conductor Kazimierz Kord—who led such a stirring *Macbeth* in San Francisco in 1986—could not get the Met's orchestra to shake off its sluggishness. Only tenor Vyacheslav Polozov's Macduff was able to bring some genuine blood and thunder to the evening.

The fault here lies not so much with the individual artists onstage as with the travesty of a production in which they were trapped. When Sir Peter Hall's staging of this opera was first unveiled in Lincoln Center several years ago, it was nearly booed and hooted off the Met's stage. It should be noted that the evening's original and ludicrous ballet has been replaced with an ill-conceived witch's dance, whose most distinctive feature is the sight of Cheryl Lynn Ross's right tit playing peek-a-boo with the audience (a gesture no doubt aimed at satisfying operagoers who like to keep time to the music by following the bouncing black boob). Many of the original production's appalling excesses have been toned down by director Paul Mills, but, as a dramatic whole, the Met's staging of *Macbeth* makes precious little sense. Instead, the production cries out to be scrapped before it can do further injustice to the composer's intentions.

RUN OF THE MILLER STUFF

Opening night of *Luisa Miller* was an equally dismal affair. Although Isola Jones was forced to replace the ailing Mignon Dunn on short notice in the role of Federica, the rest of the cast stayed pretty much intact. Sergei Koptchak's Wurm, Paul Plishka's Count Walter and Wolfgang Brendel's Miller were all robustly sung, but distinctly lacking in dramatic excitement. In her Met debut, Silvia Mosca revealed a pleasing stage presence and a serviceable soprano which did justice to Verdi's music without generating sparks.

Lesley Koenig's stage direction and Nello Santi's conducting did little to build excitement. Sadly, the most disappointing part of the evening proved to be Carlo Bergonzi's performance as Rodolfo. Although he was accorded loud, screaming ovations (and I have great respect for the 63-year-old tenor's command of the Verdian style), Bergonzi sang off pitch for a good part of the evening. This was not one of the Met's finest hours.

In his review of the performance, the New York Times' critic, Donal Henahan, suggested that if, as a general rule, Met audiences enter the auditorium expecting nothing, it will be hard for them to be disappointed. Such critical cynicism not only serves as an accurate assessment of the company's failing artistic product, but as a stern warning that Met management desperately needs to wake up and smell the coffee.

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Mr. Marcus

Reflecting on the Big Five-Oh

It was Tuesday morning, 22 March 1938. It was in far-away Santa Monica in a cheap hospital. A little boy is born. His parents gazed (glazed) down at the little ball and said, "We'll name him Gilbert Marcus," in honor of Gilbert Roland (his mother's choice) and Emperor Marcus Aurelius (his father's choice). Little did they know what royal aspirations the brat would have in later years.

So they wrapped him in warm tortillas (his father was Mexican) and soft grape leaves (his mother was Greek), and they took him to their little shack near the beach. It was still the depression, and they couldn't sell him for more than \$13.98 with a 10 percent discount if you called before 2100 hours. So they raised him to be a beach bum and surfer, never realizing the grimmies would be his pals and the Beach Boys would be his patron saint(s). So Marcus (Gillie, as he was known) grew straight (well, at least until 1966) and strong and began tying up his little surfer friends with rope and beating them with every ounce of untanned strength. He joined the Air Force and went to San Antonio for basic training. He saw San Antonio from the train when he arrived and on the train when he left, and they shipped him to England after he graduated from clerk-typist school in Wyoming.

In England he learned about fish and chips wrapped in newspapers, pale ale, gin, oatmeal stout, and... girls! It was still the depression in England after WWII, and for a candy bar or a pair of nylons or some chewing gum he found he could get whatever he wanted from girls. (No boys yet!) Then they sent him to Washington, DC, to work in the Pentagon, and it was the height of the Korean War, but he got married before he was 21, and by the time he was 24 he had four sons of his own. Then they sent him to Vietnam, and he was assigned to the Air Attache in the American Embassy in Saigon and got to wear civilian clothes and sold all his cigarettes and made mucho dinero, which his wife squandered on clothes and food and mortgage payments and clothes and food, and before he knew it was in a Chinese palace with a beautiful concubine, and he met a French Air Force sergeant from Paris, and they became good friends.

After the divorce and college and a mediocre job in the stock-broker business, he embarked on a year-long odyssey to Europe with (still) a straight buddy and bought a Volkswagen bus, which was good for picking up hitchhiking girls from America, Germany, and other foreign countries, and it was good! Until he got to Paris and looked up his old French Air Force pal (who was still married and living in a closet with his wife and children) on Boulevard Emile Zola. By August 1967, when he returned to Los Angeles, he was gay and unhappy with the gay scene in L.A., where the cops raided the bars and sent



Mr. Marcus got an early B-day treat when Randy stripped down and danced around (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

out hot-looking straight vice cops to arrest queens for just looking! By August '68 he landed in San Francisco, where he promptly set up a cute little apartment on Telegraph Hill, where his living room looked out across the street directly into Melvin Belli's bedroom (he wasn't married to Lia yet!), and it was good.

Then, one sunny Sunday afternoon, he was listening to Ella Fitzgerald and John Coltrane records when a knock came at the door, and it was Steve McQueen, who was filming *Bullitt* in the neighborhood, and his bike broke down. This incited Marcus so much, he found himself looking for the Tool Box (which was on its last leg that year) and, finding no one there, was directed to Febe's (a "strange name for a bar," he thought), and there, on that very first day in a leather bar, he met Kenny Morgan (who was young and pretty and hadn't become a Castro bartender yet), and it was good. Then he met Russ Higginbotham and Don Geist and John Kissinger and their lover at the time, Art. And he was confused about leather. (After all, wearing cashmere sweaters and beach sneakers was frowned upon.)

And then one night they were having an auction to buy furniture for the waiting room at the new VD clinic, and someone bought Marcus his first leather jacket, and he learned about bike clubs and S&M and leather brotherhood and the ways of the bikers, and it was good.

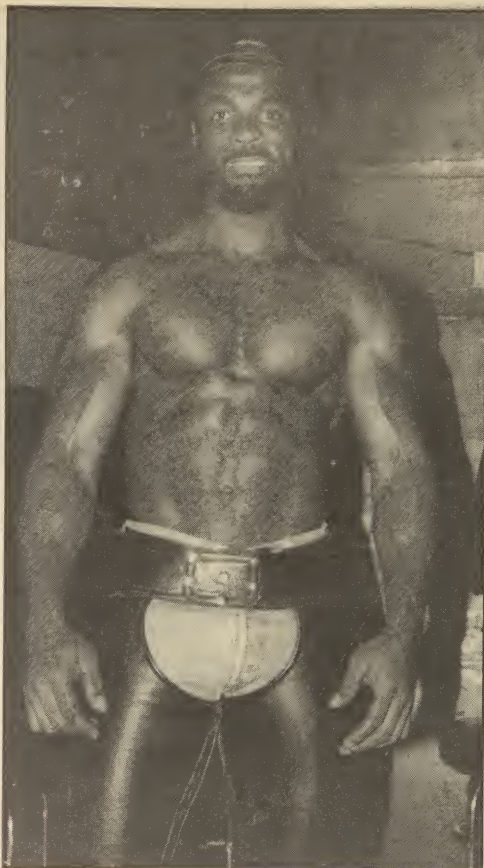
Soon he quit his job at BART and worked at Febe's and then the Ramrod and then the Speak-easy and then the Pendulum and then the *P.S., and then he won bartender of the year and assumed the managership of the notorious Boot Camp, and Herb Caen wrote about him and the bar, and then he started writing for the Advocate and then the B.A.R., and then he ran for Emperor, and the rest you should know. He was working in the mayor's office at the time, and Mr. Alioto and all the deputy mayors (then only had two, then!) were not amused; but Harvey Milk was in there fighting for gay rights already, so they didn't say anything—at least, not to his face.

His slogan as emperor was "T.C.P." (tolerate, cooperate, and participate), and he pretty much practices these principals, except cooperate, which is subject to his Aries outbursts. And so, because so many nice leather men treated him so good when he was confused and were kind to him and helped get through the trauma of being gay, Folsom became his playground, and it still is now, and thank you all for the birthday cards and letters, and I hope you all live as long as I have (even if you don't write a dish column), and may you all be rewarded for your kindnesses, your love/hate mail, your late-night phone calls, the honors you've given me, and a million memories. Hey. They should change the slogan to "Life Begins at 50". . .



The new officers of the Barbary Coasters MC

(Photo: Marcus)



Joe Batiste, winner of the first heat of the Mr. Powerhouse contest (Photo: S. Martin)

It was busy last week, I'll tell you. Friday night the Powerhouse staged the first heat of the Mr. Powerhouse contest. There'll be one contest a month until July, when the winner will be chosen during the Powerhouse's anniversary party.

The winner of the first heat is one of the hottest black men to ever wear leather. His name is Joe Batiste, and he's only 27. He looks like he was born to wear leather. A bodybuilder and computer analyst trainee, his muscles rippled all over his body, and the crowd went wild. Even Danny Rodrigues got turned on, and he's a newlywed (again).

The runnerups tied for second place and will be allowed to compete in the finals. They were Ken Duff and Paul Kovacs. The ultimate winner of the Mr. Powerhouse title will get a round-trip ticket for two to Hawaii, and the runnerup will get \$200 in cash. Stay tuned and get in on the action. The second heat is Friday, April 29.

Saturday night the Barbary Coasters M/C celebrated its 22nd anniversary at My Place. A huge crowd of the old-timers was on hand, and virtually every bike club in the area was represented. The new officers were presented, buttons were given out, and it was a festive occasion.

A few blocks away, Mike Chase staged his male stripper show

with the Ain't No Monkey Business dudes. You can hire them for private appearances, and they'll be clowns, strippers, belly-dancers, or whatever for the occasion. Call 474-0976 if you have need for an esoteric presentation.

Sunday the GDI's staged their annual Spring Equinox Beer Bust at the S.F. Eagle, and it was packed. Since Empress Lily Street is a member of that club, naturally Emperor Steve was there, too, and they were well-received with a great ovation. The South of Market troops are getting used to the idea, at last.

Over at the Dreamland complex, the Spring Equinox Party was going full-blast, and everyone seemed to be having a blast, as well.

Tuesday night, March 22, the Stud staged its annual Polka Dot Prom from 1900 to 2100, and the place was absolutely dotty! Larry Larue, the DJ in residence, had the joint jumping, and it was a spotty affair.

Tonight, March 24, the S.F. Eagle will be picking Mr. June 1989 for the Bare Chest Calendar. Ms. Bea Roman, long a leader and an inspiration at the Shanti Project, is leaving us for Washington, DC, and will fulfill her long wish to be a judge, so this should be fun. I expect Ms. Roman will make some pertinent statements that are not to be ig-

(Continued on next page)



The Sluts From Hell will M/C the Intl. Ms Leather contest



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Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

nored before she leaves March 31. Her new job as executive director of the National Lesbian & Gay Health Foundation (they put on the health conferences) will afford her the clout to get AIDS organizations to account for the funds they raise, and that's a plus! I knew she left Shanti for some reason! Don't miss this one.

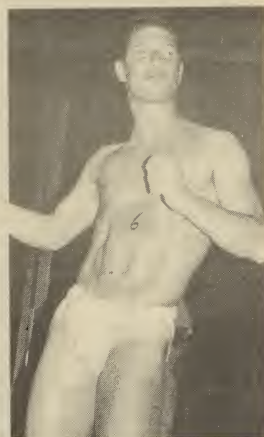
Friday night, March 25, the Bay Area Brigade of the American Uniform Assn. is holding its first uniform night party at the S.F. Eagle, and on every fourth Friday of each month. This Friday they'll be having military videos, boot camp experiences, and military bodybuilding competition. Larry Rivera wants all you uniform mavens to come and check them out—they've got some great party plans, and I wish they'd revive the Military Ball and elect a Colonel and First Lady, like they used to do around here.

Friday, also, the IMsL, Inc. women are throwing the Black Elegance Evening at the Green Room (401 Van Ness Ave.), from 2000 hours on, for only a \$15 donation benefiting the Names Project, Open Hand, and Lyon-Martin Clinic.

Saturday, 3/26, will be frantic. The S.F. Trojans will play flag-football against the L.A. Sun-Devs at McAteer at 1400 hours, with a beer bust at the Pilsner Inn immediately after the game to benefit the track team. The Pilsner cheerleaders will add to the festivities at the game, which is free. The beer bust will cost you \$5, so come and meet the Trojans and the SunDevs afterwards.

Saturday, too, at 1500-1800, the Names Project beer bust takes place at the S.F. Eagle, with former International Mr. Leather Colt Thomas hosting with Emperor Steve and Empress Lily, S.F. Calendar Men, and Tom Ammiano. (A real scream!) The admission is only \$7, so get down there after you do your laundry and errands.

Saturday night, the biggie: International Ms Leather at 2000 hours at the Gift Center Pavilion. And guess who's performing? The Sluts From Hell, a wild group from Seattle that will keep you in stitches. They are Yvonne Gonne, Mean Starlene, Angel Baby, and Ramona Carbona. This group is all the rage in the Pacific Northwest, and they consider themselves an all-girl,



Wet & Wonderful—a contestant in the Endup wet shorts competition (Photo: R. Pruzan)

female impersonator group. (Remember Victor/Victoria?) Deena Jones will provide the music, and the Sluts will MC. This has got to be crazy! Lots of hot leather women will be competing, and tickets range from \$25 to \$50 at Headlines, Mister S, and at Drummer Magazine (285 Shipley). The first IMsL, Judy Tallying McCarthy, will take her last walk, and good luck to Scooter, our Ms Leather of S.F.!

Sunday, March 27, the GSL opening-game festivities start at 1100 at Rossi Field with two games, Superstar Video vs. Amelia's, and the S.F. Eagle vs. Rainbow Roos.

If you want to get out of town or can't make it to the city on Sunday, you can go to the Mr. Drummer of San Jose contest at Club St. John. The winner will represent San Jose in the Mr. Northern California Drummer contest later this year.

Monday evening the "Hit the Road Show" for the Quilt's trip begins at 1930 at Herbst Theatre (\$10 to \$100 tickets), and on Thursday, March 31, Dick Manning of the S.F. Royal Guards celebrates his 50th at the CW Saloon, beginning at 1930. Happy birthday, Dickie! More coming your way, so stay tuned!



So rest easy, guys and gals. Do your best to do your bit in the fundraising for AIDS agencies and other worthy causes. Stay out of the bushes, keep your legs crossed, and keep giving—it hurts, but do it anyway! ●

Karl's Calendar

Compiled by Diedre

THURSDAY 3/24

Mr. June Bare Chest Contest, S.F. Eagle, 10 p.m.

Feathers 'n' Flesh Show, N'Touch, showtimes 10:30 p.m. and 12:15 a.m.

FRIDAY 3/25

AUA Beer Bust, S.F. Eagle, 8-11 p.m., \$7.

Chuck Largent Revue and Grand Ducal Council Mr. and Miss Bunny Contest, Kimo's, 8 p.m., \$5 donation, raffle.

Clean Sweep Night, Pilsner Inn, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., entertainment and raffle, bring donation (canned/boxed foodstuffs or toiletries), benefit Coming Home Hospice, host Pilsner Poppers (softball cheerleader squad).

SATURDAY 3/26

Mint Softball Team Beer Bust, Mint, 1-4 p.m., \$5.

Names Project Beer Bust, S.F. Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$7.

SUNDAY 3/27

Grand Ducal Beer Bust, S.F. Eagle, 3-6 p.m., \$7, prizes for Easter baskets.

MONDAY 3/28

Dinner/Show, Galleon, dinner seating 6:30-7 p.m., \$25, show 8 p.m. Featuring Jae Ross and Valarie Quevedo, hosts Marga Gomez and Danny Williams, benefit AIDS Emergency Fund.

TUESDAY 3/29

Tavern Guild Meeting, Ginger's II, 1 p.m.

Leather Drawings, S.F. Eagle, five drawings starting at 9 p.m.

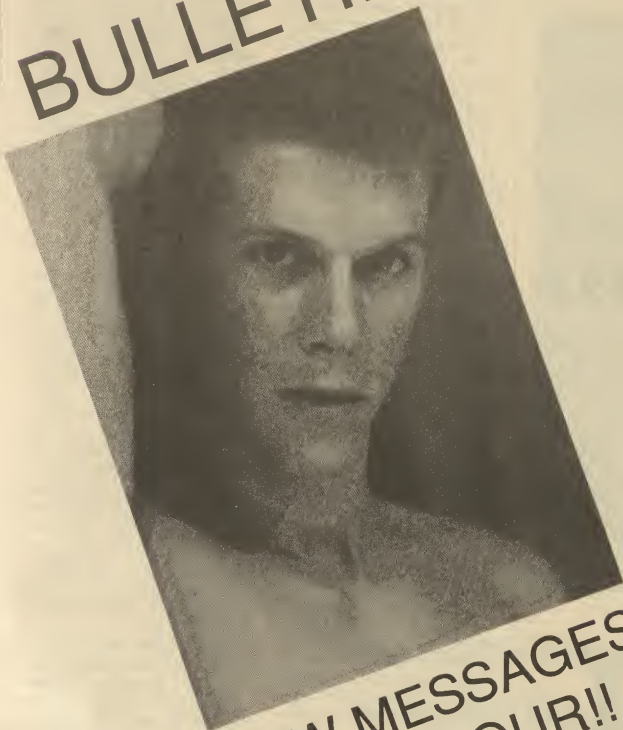
WEDNESDAY 3/30

Class Acts Contest, Sutter's Mill, 8 p.m., \$1 cover, benefit Friends for Friends.

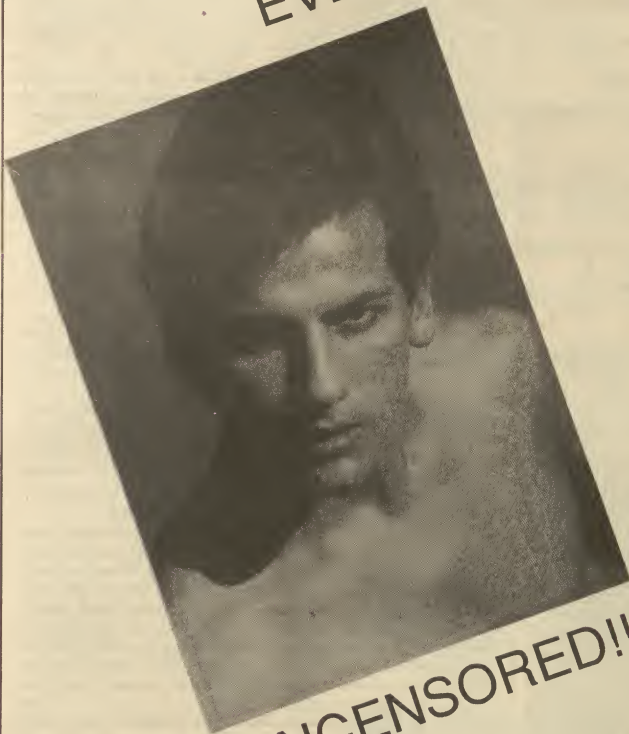
THURSDAY 3/31

Feathers 'n' Flesh Show, N'Touch, showtimes 10:30 p.m. and 12:15 a.m. ●

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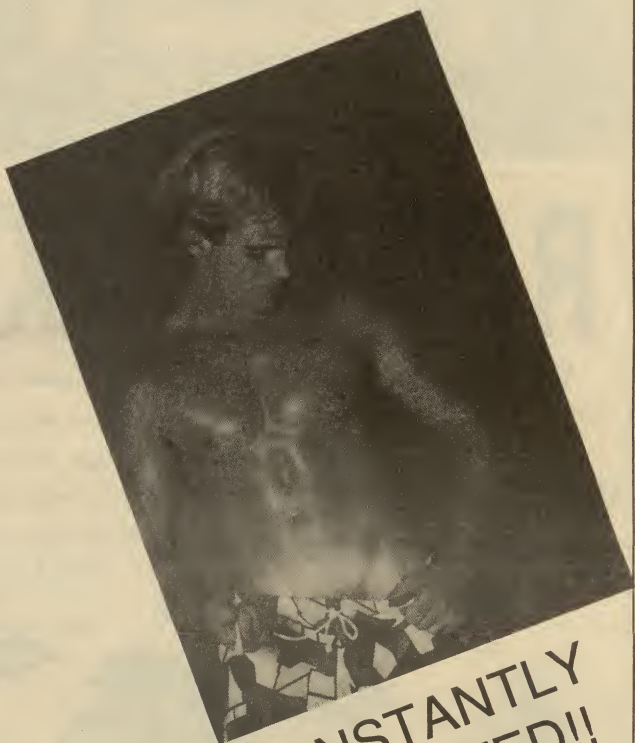
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Vito Russo

(Continued from page 26)

to call attention to the shortcomings of films. Also, Rex Reed has been astonishing in terms of putting down homophobia in movies. Even in the *New York Post*, which is a right-wing Murdoch paper, he has attacked bigots, has promoted decent positive films about gay people and has gone on the Tonight Show and blasted Hollywood for

not dealing with AIDS."

Homosexuality and Hollywood have been bedfellows, albeit not always comfortable ones, since the art form's inception.

"If you want to define it as any hint that homosexuality even existed in the world then you would have to say that the first wave (of gays in film) began as soon as the movies began," Russo explains. "There has actually been discovered a 1914 Swedish film by Mauritz Stiller based on *Mikail*, although it no longer exists. In Germany, before the Nazis came to power, there were lots of references to homosexuals on the screen. That all stopped once the Nazis took over.

"Then, it didn't revive itself until the late 30s," he added. "And then because of the censorship code in Hollywood, homosexuality disappeared overtly from the screen until the early 60s. Then that was a sort of exposition phase—I always think of this period as the education of the American public about the subject of homosexuality. These gay films of the 1960s were almost all sensationalistic expositions about homosexual life leading up to *The Boys In The Band*—which was its logical conclusion, a film in which all the main characters were gay. It's interesting to me that *The Boys In The Band* (1969), came out in the same year as the Stonewall riots. The explosion was total."

SO FEW

However, Russo qualifies any enthusiasm about the present state of things. "When you realize how many movies are made every year. It's a drop in the bucket. You're talking about maybe a dozen films compared to five or six thousand films made a year. It's astonishing that there are so few."

Although he continues to press for more and more positive portrayals of gays on film, Russo puts a great deal of the responsibility back on the wallets of the gay and lesbian community. He does not see it as the film industry's special mission to pull the American homosexual out of a web of self-loathing and self-stereotyping.

"I wish I could say 'yes' I think they do [have that responsibility]."

tyl" he says. "I personally feel that I have the responsibility to do everything I can to illustrate by example that gay people should not hide, that gay people should be more politically conscious and aware of their surroundings. The truth is, you can't tell a director or a writer what to direct or what to write. I urge the masses to be more political, because only through numbers do we achieve any level of success or visibility."

Russo admits, citing the large numbers of gay actors who are afraid to come out of the closet, that the present day is a difficult period for all parties concerned.

"Anyone who has any contact with the movie industry knows that between thirty and fifty percent of the producers are gay," says Russo. "Thirty to 50 percent of the people who work within the industry are gay. But of course, now because of AIDS, it is more difficult to come out than ever before.

"Hollywood is very homophobic right now," he continues. "Because of the AIDS crisis, their knee-jerk reaction will be to make films in which if you have a gay person AIDS is going to rear its ugly head."

While recognizing the realities of the present situation, Russo is not about to lower his sights. He expects a lot. Sometimes he is disappointed. Sometimes not. Although he sees the AIDS issue as being of paramount importance right now, he does not see it as an excuse for filmmakers, gay or straight, to wallow in a celluloid closet of repression and stereotype.

"Independent filmmakers will continue to make films which deal with other issues," he says. "Bill Sherwood did it in *Parting Glances*. Not only did he have gay characters who were happy, but one of them was a gay character with AIDS who was happy. I mean, of course, he didn't want to die. But Sherwood created a reality of life during the age of AIDS which was not all despair and disease."

"That's the goal," he nods. "To somehow put up a mirror to ourselves and reflect what is really going on. Few films of any kind do that."

Stryker

(Continued from page 26)

all. I like him. I have three of his films. He's a hunk. It was a fun experience."

Picture-taking became the operative activity with Stryker in the downstairs lounge. People would blush, feign embarrassment, and then finally wrap their arms around the star. Dibble was initially reluctant to have his picture taken with Stryker, but, after some coaxing from the crowd, he finally relented. Once in Stryker's arms, Dibble seemed to forget there was anyone else in the room.

Several people who attended the two-day press-the-flesh activities wished that Stryker had given a more complete show, in the tradition of the Campus Theatre. "I thought he was going

to strip. I'm not disappointed, though, I enjoyed seeing him, and I like him. It would be nice if they would get an equal quality of strippers," said Mark Thomas of Napa.

"I definitely had a lot to enjoy, and I really didn't mind that he didn't take it all off, because I've seen it all before anyway," said J.R. of San Francisco. He said he had been to the theater before to see other people, like Lee Ryder.

One person said, "I think he perpetuates the fantasy by not taking his clothes off."

The weekend probably set the box office record for any gay male theater in San Francisco's history. The cost to get Jeff Stryker was reportedly several thousand dollars for the two days. Stryker stayed at a suite at the Clift Hotel and was taken with security by limousine to and from the theater.

Fifty Years of Marcus

Patrick Batt, Hank Cook and Bob Ross will host a 50th birthday party for Mister Marcus Hernandez on Sunday, March 27, at the Cafe Majestic. Cocktails will begin at 7 p.m. and a sit-down dinner featuring chicken with figs or roast veal will be served at 8 p.m. Stanley Eichelbaum, owner,

has devised a special Queen Mother Chocolate Cake for dessert.

Tickets for the event are \$75 per person with all proceeds going to the AIDS Emergency Fund. Reservations can be made by calling 441-6407.

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Coming Back Down to Earth

What a dilemma to be faced with, to think that the voting for the Gay Community Awards will take place Saturday, April 2, at Hibernia Beach, 18th and Castro, and I have only one column before that date.

The awards will be held April 9 at 240 Golden Gate Ave., and it does look like Mr. Marcus will get his wish, because it does look like there is a name for this particular hall—something about plumbers. Nobody said glamorous names would be required for the addresses we frequent.

Speaking of Mr. Marcus, it does seem that he will be celebrating his 50th birthday with the help of some of his friends, namely Patrick Batt, Hank Cook, and Bob Ross, Sunday, March 27. This occasion will benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund and will consist of cocktails at 7 p.m., dinner at 8 p.m., all at the Cafe Majestic, 1500 Sutter St., for a \$75 donation. You can make reservations by mail c/o the AIDS Emergency Fund, 1550 California St., S.F., CA 94109, or by calling them at 441-6407. At this point you must realize how proud of myself I am, getting all that information out without one crack about my stage wife's name.

Where to ramble on to next? That would have to be the COITS and their Skidazzle Trip. Soon I will be able to write about the COITS as our trips, because I am joining up with that crew. Until then, I shall have to be content to report on their trips.

The annual Queen of South-shore (in exile) contest was held at a bar near the host hotel, and both the contestants were terribly unattractive, as required by the contest rules. At last, after much deliberation (30 seconds), the judges proclaimed Miss G as the ecstatic winner of the spoils. Luckily, Miss G's honey had an enchanting diamond ring that the winner received a little while later in the evening.

The COITS are a fun group and always seem to attract more than a few new faces on all their trips. The next trip might be a Russian River weekend in October, and the details will be listed here when, and if, they become available.

Here comes that weekly blurb for the Tavern Guild, and whether or not I'm correct is anyone's guess. All I know is that, after I finally received my newsletter, I found that the next meeting is scheduled for this Tuesday at 1 p.m. at Ginger's Too!, 43 6th St. And yes, there will be a bartender working that day.

Golden Gate Performing Arts presents "Take 2" this Saturday evening at 8 p.m. This event will feature the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles, and special guest Samantha Samuels. "Take 2" will take place at the Mission High School Auditorium, 18th and Church, with the tickets priced at \$10, \$12, \$15, and \$20. Tickets are available at Word Processing Services of San Francisco, located at 2354 Market St., Suite 1.

Sunday will be a fundraiser for Tessie's Memorial Holiday Dinner Program, with this one raising money for the upcoming Easter Dinner at St. Paulus Church. At Ginger's Too!, your host and hostess, respectively, will be Bobby Pace and Sweetlips, with the party starting at 4 p.m.

The Galleon, home of that dashing duo Pat and Jerry, will play host to a benefit evening for the AIDS Emergency Fund this Monday. The evening will consist of a dinner and a cabaret show, with the entertainment provided by Marga Gomez, Jae Ross, Valerie Quevedo, Danny Williams, and Bob Bauer on the piano. Dinner and show is \$25, and it all starts at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are required; call 431-0253.

The Mint's entertainment schedule March 29 through April 3 will include the return of Frank Banks for three nights, March 29-31, after which he will be playing on Wednesday and Thursday nights regularly. Friday, April 1, there will be an Easter plant auction by the COITS, starting at 7:30 p.m., after which Stephanie Miller will perform two of his/her wild shows for your enjoyment. Saturday night the Mint will feature the comedy talents of Marga Gomez. There will be two sets, with the first starting at 10 p.m.

Easter Sunday will be the Lily St. Easter Fair with you-know-who presiding over the festivities, and also the Silver Strip will be



Sissy Spaceout introduced Emperor Steve Rascher at 'A Night of Nostalgia' at Kimo's
(Photo: S. Martin)

hosting an Easter Hat Parade throughout their member bars, which include the Pilsner, Hideaway, Transfer, Galleon, Mint, and the Eagle Creek. Rules are available at any of those bars, and there will be two \$250 prizes: one for most original and the other for most outrageous.

The night before Easter, April 2, will be the annual White Party at Trocadero Transfer. This year's event is billed as "The Great Gatsby...an Opulent Affair," and if I know Dick and his staff, it will be just that, if not more. The tickets are \$20 general admission, no Troc L.D. required, and tickets are available at All American Boy or all Headlines locations. The doors for this soiree open at 10 p.m., and there will be dancing 'til dawn!

Lola Lust told me to inform you that he/she has something to do with the shows on Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday evenings, and you better be there if you know what's good for you!

Since I know what's good for me, I will end this rambling before my typewriter walks out on me, but not before I encourage you to support and vote for Roberta Achtenberg—a good woman and a good candidate! ●

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E12

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E12

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E12

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Feeling horny? 1,000's of horny guys
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Master's in Phys. Ed, former NYC
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\$35⁰⁰ 1 1/2 hr., discount for couples
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Let's correspond with pictures
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E12

Massage

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Photo by Reno



Put a Smile on Your Face
I am not easy, I am good.
Full massage in the nude
Ron 775-7057 24 hrs.
\$50 in/\$65 out

SEVENTY MINUTE

Oil Massage, in the nude plus a
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handsome 6'—165—35 yrs.
Beautiful, athletic build.
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SWEDISH/CERTIFIED
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Massage catering to the elderly, by
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Younger generations welcome.

Massage

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by a handsome, masculine blond,
6', 190, beautifully nude
muscular body, summer tan.
Firm, Erotic Swedish Massage
Massage Lotion & Table, Hard to Beat It
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Traditional Japanese bodywork. This
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\$40 282-3733 24 Hours
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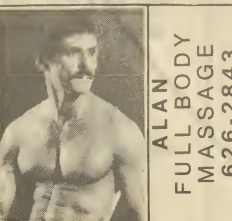
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MASSAGE
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Swedish/Esalen, Shiatsu



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Relaxing \$40/\$50 441-2149
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Be pampered for 90 mins.
My trained hands and hot oil
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Castro area. Only \$35. 24 hrs.
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Full body massage by nude body-
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Older men welcome, fine body,
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Gourmet bodywork! Chiropractic
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Great for stress reduction!
\$50/hr. 431-5352, nonsexual.
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Excellent Relaxing
☆☆ Erotic ☆☆
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Master's touch for healthy,
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30s, 5' smooth, uncut.
Safe. 9-5. Joe, 346-2921,
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Young swimmer, sensitive,
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Loving hands massage full body.
Erotic! FF. All ages. Tues-Thurs-
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FEEL GOOD
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Enjoy 90 min. oil massage.
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Caring, blk. masseur, Mr. G,
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5 p.m. wkdays, all day Sat-Sun.
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Hot oil mass/hot tub 863-6536 J
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Kyle, 861-4362, \$40/out. E12

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expert, big men only, 731-0824.
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Drift into relaxed bliss
with a sensuous massage from
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Feel your body come alive! Ted,
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Cute guy gives muscle massage.
Hot, tight build. Tanned, hairy
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Swimmer, 88 8" Cut Blonde/Blu
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Cute Asian & Latin Yng Men.

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full body massage
by a very handsome
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— indulge ... \$40 out

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who work out—Phillip
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Sensual massage in the buff.
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\$30/60 min. • \$40/80 min. • IN/OUT
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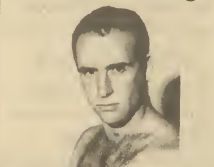
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Trim athletic 20-40 yrs.
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tool with big, shaved low
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handsome, big nipples...
When you want the best.
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Legit writer needs help
from exp. model/escort.
Fee + % for right person.
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Be honest, open, sharp. Discreet.
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Dad, 6', 170#, 30, hung 9" x thick
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Models & Escorts

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Join with similar men in a
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Smooth, tight build.
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Friendly — fun — discreet. E12

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best. 431-5974. E12

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Hairy in the right places.
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8 1/2 EXTRA THICK CUT

Handsome, Clean Shaven
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Thick Cut 8+ Digs French 30, 5'10", 195# Dan 861-7931 E12

SAFE FUN YOUNG HOT
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I lay back. Extra hung. Extra thick. Washbrd abds. Jonny \$60. 552-8774 E12

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Big Butt Nipples
Tall Hairy Chad 861-7014 E27

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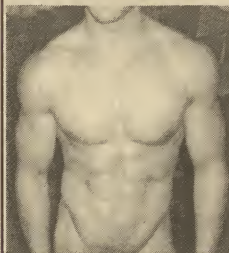
Blond, blue-eyed, masculine guy with boyish good looks. Incredible "V-shaped" torso & washboard abs! Thighs & calves of steel! 5'9", 165 lbs, 43°C, 28"W, "Hung Huge & Thick!" Safe only.

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BODYBUILDING STAR
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Models & Escorts

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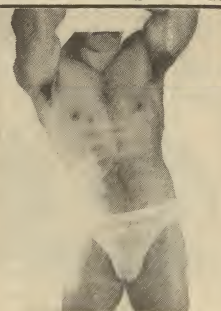


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Hot, gdlkg, rockhard muscles
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Anytime. No BS.
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Comp. BB new in town, 26 yr.
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31"W, 18"C, catalonian
complexion. Hung \$80/In
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6'3"/190/BLOND
Looking for Subservience
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JASON
175 lbs., 5'8 1/2", 46"C, 29"W
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Wess 6'2" 185# Br BI
Playful Stud X Extra Thick
24 hrs 885-1837 997-7675 bpr

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Short blond body-
builder, handsome,
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Discreet.

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Very Aggressive, Discreet
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Available for In & Out Calls
A Man Who Loves His Work

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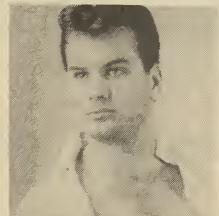
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6' 175 lbs BRN/BLU WASHBOARD
Very handsome student with a
tight well defined muscular build
and a True thick sexy nine-incher!

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The Original; FUN TIME BOY!!

21, Tall Blue eyed Blonde
Sexy, Playful & Very Friendly
XXX Hung & Mmm Mmm Buns!

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Tall, hot top enjoys FFA,
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90m/\$100, 255-1018 (in SF) E17

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Bi Blond Cyclist
\$80 in/\$100 out—Safe
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Competition BB/Pro Wrestler
physique. 41 yrs, 6'4", 235 lbs.,
54c, 22a, 33w, 28t 19ca. Clint
Eastwood / Joe Falcio military
look. Muscle play, pec work. J/O.
\$100, out only. (415) 621-1066 Bob

Models & Escorts



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Good lknng College Students
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Gentle Creative S/M - Tease/
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Well built top w/mohawk
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clean cut healthy and
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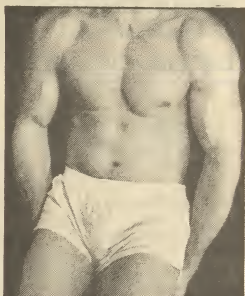
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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

SOFTBALL

Softballers Start Sunday at Rossi

by Tom Vindeed

With ten years behind them and two successful World Series as well, San Francisco's Gay Softball League embarks on its 11th season this Sunday.

Rossi Field, at Anza and Arguello, will be the site of this year's doubleheader opener pitting Superstar Video against Amelia's and the S.F. Eagle clashing with the Rainbow Roos. The opener begins at 11 a.m., with opening ceremonies set for 12:30 p.m.

The highlight of the ceremony will be the honoring of the six San Francisco supervisors who supported Sup. Harry Britt's Olympics resolution. This will also be the third straight year that the Opening Day festivities have been produced by Deena Jones and Tony Treviso.

Immediately after the game, Dreamland (715 Harrison St. at Third) will host a post-game party. Music will be provided by D.J. Steve Fabus of Tracks fame in New York.

If you plan to attend the games, we are asking you to bring a food donation for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Food Bank.

There will be the usual food booths, good music and an all-around enjoyable fun day being planned. Join us as we enter our second decade.



The Pendulum and the Endup may fight it out for the GSL championship (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

Prior to the openers, the league will hold a progressive dinner on Saturday night. For a paltry \$10, you can start with chips and dips at Amelia's beginning at 5 p.m. At 6 p.m., Jerry Coletti's Galleon will serve hors d'oeuvres. One hour later, it's across the street to the Pilsner for soup, and then to the Pendulum for salad at 8 p.m. The entire, consisting of roast beef,

mashed potatoes and veggies, will be served at Cafe San Marcos at 9 p.m. Next, it will be Uncle Bert (formerly of the Village) serving a home-baked dessert. Finally, everyone will go to the Bear for "one more" cocktail.

You may sign up at any of the early stops for what promises to be a terrific night of food and fun.

'87 Champs Add New Stars

Endup Hopes to End Up Where It Ended Up Last Year

by Rick Thoman

When the Endup decided to become a sponsoring bar in the San Francisco Gay Softball League last year, owner Al Hanken had no major expectations for his team. So, when the Endup went undefeated in the 1987 season and won the GSL championship, Hanken had every reason to smile.

The Endup now finds itself as "the team to beat" for the 1988 season which opens Sunday, March 27, at Lang Field (Gough and Golden Gate Sts.). "I would say the Endup and the Pendulum will be fighting it out for the top spot in the GSL this year," said Endup manager Neil Christie. "And of course there will be other teams challenging for the title, like the Pilsner Inn. No team has a 'lock' on first place."

The league has been restructured this year, dividing the teams into competitive and recreational divisions. The restructuring will allow the competitive teams to play each other more than once during the season and could produce some tough battles for a spot in the playoffs.

As winners of the S.F. CSL last year, the Endup represented San

Francisco at the 1987 Gay Softball World Series. The Endup won a thrilling opening game, but lost its next two games. As Christie noted, "1987 was a special year because San Francisco hosted the Series. We had a lot of guys on the Endup team that were inexperienced in World Series competition, and that may have contributed to our being knocked out early. But we had a great time, and we appreciated the support we received from the other San Francisco teams."

The 1988 Gay Softball World Series will be held in Dallas, and San Francisco is scheduled to play against Seattle in the opening game. Christie hopes the Endup will be playing that game, and he's added some new players to his roster in an effort to earn that spot.

Steve McFonnel and Skip Anderson of San Francisco both have previous World Series experience, as does Bill Sehnem, who recently moved to S.F. from Houston and joined the team. Julius Banks, who played with the Metro team last year, has also signed on with the Endup for 1988.

"These new players will add

some depth to our team," explained Christie. "But we already have a strong squad returning, including Terry Brooks (the winningest pitcher in the GSL last season), Steve Sternfeld (1986 Cable Car Award nominee) and Bob Wilcox (winner of the Golden Glove Award at last year's Cascade Cup Tournament in Seattle)."

The Endup will participate in two holiday tournaments again this year. For Memorial Day weekend, they return to Seattle as defending champions of the Cascade Cup Tournament. During the 4th of July, Christie said the team has chosen to go to a tournament in Boston to "gain more experience against East Coast teams," many of which the Endup didn't get a chance to see play until the World Series. "Tournaments are always fun," Christie declared, "but it's best to find one that offers exposure to a wide variety of teams."

The first game for the Endup is on Sunday, April 10, versus the Rainbow Roo's. The following week the Endup meets the rival Pendulum Pirates in what could be a preview of the duel for the 1988 GSL championship!

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BOWLING

600s All Over the Place

Good Bowling Side by Side by Side by Side

by Richard McPherson

Lanes 1-8 were ablaze at Park Bowl on March 2 in the Wednesday Tavern Guild League (TGL) when eight bowlers shot 600 series on these eight lanes all in the same evening. Usually there are just a smattering of 600s throughout all the leagues during any given week, but this night they were all side-by-side.

It was like this... Lanes 1-2: Arne Prince (187 average), 209, 231/638; Peter Bassford (169), 246, 213/622. Lanes 3-4: Dave Lilly (188), 219/603; Richard McPherson (195), 223/614. Lanes 5-6: Roy Thorson (194), 215, 231/641; Tom Sipple (190), 212, 232/627; Randy Peterson (187), 228/604 (return of the Suzettes). Lanes 7-8: J.C. Halstead (182), 223, 229/645. Also on lanes 3-4, George Carico (181) had 223 and 224, and Dick Bruen (159), 210. Hot competition.

In the Monday Tavern Guild Trios Feb. 29, David Arnold was high with 246, 226/637. Randy Peterson (177) shot his second 600 of the week on Thursday, March 3, with 239, 230/640.

Bowlers shooting 215+ games at Park Bowl in the TGL's Feb. 29 to March 3: Ron Squires (166), 245; Pat Conlon (177), 240; Randy Peterson (181), 238; Rob Levi (166), 238; Buddy Hunt (169), 237; Dick Cavanaugh (177), 231; Eugene Gales (168), 231; Allen Price (167), 227; Doug Litwin (186), 227, 205; Don Gambell (172), 226; Ljubo Sliskovic (172), 225; Roger Spencer (169), 223; Dion Cessna (169), 223, 207; Darrell Thomas (169), 221; Bob Bates (167), 220.



Bowling makes for serious conferences

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Honorable mention (160 and under average): John Bondie (147), 220; Tandy Belew (140), 219; Ed Hamm (160), 217; Thom Moore (147), 212; Jimmy Olson (146), 210; Jeff Ingels (150), 209; Kay DuVal (145), 206/566; Frank Romeo (147), 200. Special congratulations to Andrew Pear (109) in the Thursday TGL on this 203 game and to Tim Cramer (135) on 162, 192, 197/551 (146 pins over his average).

Congrats, also, to Patrick London (one of the host two-steppers on the Saddle Tramps, the Rawhide II's performing group) on his award-winning all-spare game in the Monday TGL. London, a

150 average, had no idea that this meant anything when he finished; he thought I was joking when I told him. Even after I congratulated him four times, it was like, "So?" Well, I thought it was something. An all-spare game doesn't happen very often.

Just so we can get current on high scores at Park Bowl, following are the individual scoring achievements for the TGL's from March 7-10.

Arne Prince (189) led off the 600 achievers that week with 211, 210, 219 for a 640 series. Other 600s: Dave Lilly (189), 213, 224/624; Jeff Hettmansperger (188), 226/605; Randy Peterson (188),

224, 202/603; David Arnold (192), 201, 204/600.

Bowlers shooting 215+ games: Ken Sayles (176), 226; Pat Conlon (174), 225; Larry Kramer (174), 225; Ljubo Sliskovic (178), 224; Greg Hulliger (173), 223; Angelo Maggio (184), 221.

Honorable mention (160 and under average): Preston Lasley (146), 211; Bob Kelleher (144),

210; Barry Cummings (141), 209; Ed Hamm (160), 207; John Adams (147), 202; Michael McPherson (150), 200.

On Monday J.C. Halstead (171) shot 215 and 213, followed Wednesday with 209 and 209. Don Gambell (174) had 216 and 203. A special hurrah for Ruth Bodden (131), who shot her lifetime high game of 210 in the Wednesday TGL. Not only that, but she took over high handicap game, to boot.

Debbie Carmona (191 average) was high for the women in the S.F. Women's Business League, with 201, 216 for a 615 series.

Other wmen shooting 200+ games: Randi Glick (131), 212; Mel Coyle (181), 212; Robyn Trost (163), 204; Virginia Brusco (162), 203, 203; Elizabeth Yesowitch (154), 203. Three cheers for Sara Lewinstein (174) on her award-winning triplicate set (three games the same)... they failed to tell me, though, what that game was.

In the Community Leagues at Japantown Bowl, Darrell Thomas (167 average) was high with 224 and 202 games in the Sunday Reno League. Other 210+ games the week of March 4-10: D. Phillips (168), 221; John Stannard

(Continued on next page)

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD LEAGUES

Team Standings

TAVERN GUILD TRIOS (Final)

	W	L
1. Pilsner Pin Pals	57	31
2. Main Course	56	32
3. Bow-K	55½	32½
4. Bill's Quackers	54	34
5. Galaxy	52	36
6. S.F. Eagle	51½	36½
7. Clayton Cavaliers	49	39
8. Pilsner Pinguins	48	40
9. Spare Parts	47	41
10. Cafe San Marcos	46	42
11. And I Do Windows	44½	43½
12. Best of Breed	44	44
13. Capricorn Coffee	41½	46½
14. Underpinnings	40	48
15. Bloomin' Flowers	39½	48½
16. Strike Force	37½	50½
17. Hanna's Sisters	35½	51½
18. Pet Shop	35½	52½
19. O My Mi	35	53
20. Park Bowl	35	53
21. Alcatraz Federal BBS	33	55
22. Pilsner Pin-Ups	26	62

MONDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE (Final)

	W	L
1. Pilsner Pinguins	66½	21½
2. Park Bowl	58	30
3. Stayin' Alive	58	30
4. Rolo's	54½	33½
5. Frantic Finishers	53	35
6. Pilsner Powerpuffs	48	40
7. Rawhide II	47	41
8. Kokpit Pacers	44	44
9. Pet Stop Cocktails	44	44
10. Is It Over Yet	44	44
11. Play With It LTD	43	45
12. Lambda Capital	43	45
13. Castro Station	40	48
14. Twisted Pins	39	49
15. Rawhide II Too!	39	49
16. Welcome Home	38½	49½
17. Pendulum	38	50
18. Bar Breakers	37	51
19. C. C. Cotillion	36	52
20. Jack Trux	35½	52½
21. Trax Stars	35	53
22. Pendulum II	24	64

WEDNESDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE

	W	L
1. Leftovers	60	24
2. Pilsner Pinguins	60	24
3. Pendulum Pandas	58	26
4. Pendulum Pieces	53½	30½
5. Pilsner Quackers	52½	31½
6. Bow-K	49	35
7. All American Bowlers	49	35

8. Rams Head Bar	45	39
9. Park Bowl	44	40
10. Pilsnerds	44	40
11. Gutter Girls	44	40
12. Play With It, LTD	43½	40½
13. Rams and Ewe	40½	43½
14. Pilsner Easy Pickup	39	45
15. S.F. Eagle	36	48
16. Pilsner I	35½	48½
17. Pilsner Pntless Sisters	34	50
18. Galleon	31½	52½
19. Schmidt & Schmidt	31	53
20. D.K.'s Unmentionables	30	54
21. 9 Eyes Only	29	55
22. Bedrockers	5	79

THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE

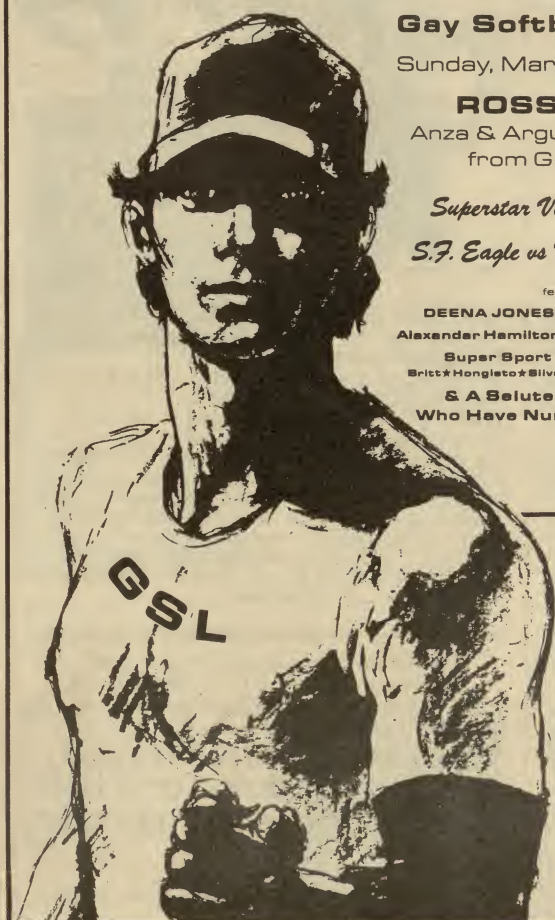
	W	L
1. Belden 22	55	25
2. Play With It Ltd	53	27
3. Pilsner 4 Play	52	28
4. Styles & Stamen	47	33
5. Trax Trash	46	34
6. Still Just Trax	45½	34½
7. Strike Force	44	36
8. Woo Woos	43	37
9. Trisix's Tricks	43	37
10. S.F. Eagle	42	38
11. Park Bowl	42	38
12. Team Eight	40½	39½
13. R.A.C. Rodies	37	43
14. Wild Balls	36½	43½
15. Confused Ones	36	44
16. American Pie	36	44
17. Honeymooners	30½	49½
18. Paradise Lounge	18	62

S.F. WOMEN'S BUSINESS LEAGUE

	W	L
1. Mona Tong Realty	59	21
2. Bowldykes	48	32
3. Maud's Squad	46	34
4. Better Natural	46	34
5. Cafe Commons	45½	34½
6. Park Bowl	43	37
7. Geraldine's Caterers	43	37
8. Express Computer	41	39
9. Olive Oils	41	39
10. Awards by Chris	39½	40½
11. Faenza/White	39	41
12. Sidney's Pinheads	37	43
13. Artemis	36	44
14. Amelias35½	44½	
15. About Paper Plus	34½	45½
16. Cassidy's Cabinettes	31	49
17. Brite Shine Janit	29	51
18. Francois Coffee Hse.	26	54

(It is the responsibility of the bowling establishment to supply the B.A.R. with league standing sheets.)

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Sunday, March 27th-11 am

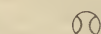
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BOWLING

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES BOWLING

Team Standings

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE

	W	L
1. Remember Us?	16	4
2. Tidy Bowlers	16	4
3. Phabulaz 4	14	6
4. Sassy	13	7
5. Firebird Sweets	12	8
6. Jackpot	11	9
7. Bob's Big Boys	10	10
8. 4 Many Reasons	10	10
9. 5 Pin-Anybody?	10	10
10. Bouncing Balls	10	10
11. Beef Strokino	10	10
12. Alley Cats	9	11
13. Great Balls of Fire	9	11
14. Pin Us Down	8	12
15. Diner Dogs	8	12
16. Natalie's Deadwoods	7	13
17. Strike Force	6	14
18. Bad Lucky Boys	0	20

MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

	W	L
1. No Shows	20	8
2. Brand X	19½	8½
3. Five Easy Pieces	16½	11½
4. Missing Persons	16	12
5. Split Sisters	15½	12½
6. SF Band Foundation	14	14
7. Stationaires	13	15
8. Barb's Team	12	16
9. Bench and Bar	12	16
10. Loft In Space	12	16
11. Rumlbers	10	18
12. Debutantes	6½	21½

WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

	W	L
1. Mother's Lode	20	4
2. Kingpin Honeys	17	7
3. Rawhd Balls In Hand	15	9
4. SF Band & Tea Corp	15	9
5. Play With It Ltd	14	10

6. Ball Doctors	13	11
7. Lois Laners	13	11
8. Parakeet Lounge	13	11
9. 14 Karat Jewels	12	12
10. E Z Pick Up	11	13
11. The Helen Beds	10½	13½
12. Pilsner Tux 'n' Tails	8½	15½
13. A E F Maulers	6	18
14. More Hits thn Misses	0	24

THURSDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

	W	L
1. Team #5	7	1
2. Castro ettes	5	3
3. Wooden Horse	5	3
4. Team #6	4	4
5. Odd Balls	4	4
6. Calleon	4	4
7. Team #4	4	4
8. Pendulum #1	3	5
9. Old Ricks	3	5
10. Liquor Express	1	7

HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE

	W	L
1. Double Trouble	13½	6½
2. Eruptions	13	7
3. Hard Times	12	8
4. Earth Mothers	12	8
5. Hi Bound	10	10
6. Haleakala Hookers	10	6
7. Tropical Teeezers	9	11
8. Bowl 'R Brains	9	11
9. Easy Leis	9	11
10. Urasis Dragon	9	7
11. Ball Busters	8	12
12. Moby Dick Wallers	8	12
13. Lois' Lane	7½	12½
14. Bulldogettes	6	14

(It is the responsibility of the bowling establishment to supply the B.A.R. with league standing sheets.)

Bowling

(Continued from previous page)

(178), 217; Larry Ellis (149), 212.

Honorable mention (160 average and under): Allen Habel (153), 206; Cliff Russell (159), 203; Armando Luna (146), 203; Jean Butler (139), 203; Charlie Glenn (150), 202; Sam Migliaccio (152), 201.

It was perfect bowling weather in Sacramento on Saturday, March 12, for the Tri-City Tournament. A brilliant blue sky and bright sun blinded the 41 teams representing Sacramento, San Francisco, Mountain View and San Jose.

They Host L.A. on March 26

Trojans Hope to Penetrate Rival Defense

by Rick Thoman

San Francisco's gay flag-football team, the San Francisco Trojans, play host to the Los Angeles SunDevils on Saturday, March 26. The game will be held at the McAteer High School football field, located at the corner of O'Shaunnessy and Portola Sts. in Twin Peaks. Kickoff is slated for 2 p.m.

The Trojans will be led by quarterback Jeff Warren, split ends Scott Smith and Mike Rios, tight end George Loudis, half-back Clay Parks, and linemen Clay Maxwell, Eugene Broderick, and Andy Kizziah. The Trojan team is a mix of returning veterans and new players, while this is the first season for the SunDevils.

The Pilsner Inn on Church Street (at Market) will be host for

both a pre-game party Friday night, beginning at 9 p.m., and a post-game beer bust celebration on Saturday.

This is the first in a series of flag-football games between Northern and Southern California. The Trojans will travel to L.A. for a rematch in early June and hope to meet the San Diego football team later in the summer. The Trojans are hoping this series of games will demonstrate enough of a commitment to the sport of flag-football to have it included in the 1990 Vancouver Gay Games.

For more information regarding Saturday's game or about joining the San Francisco Trojans, contact Clay at 821-1851. ●

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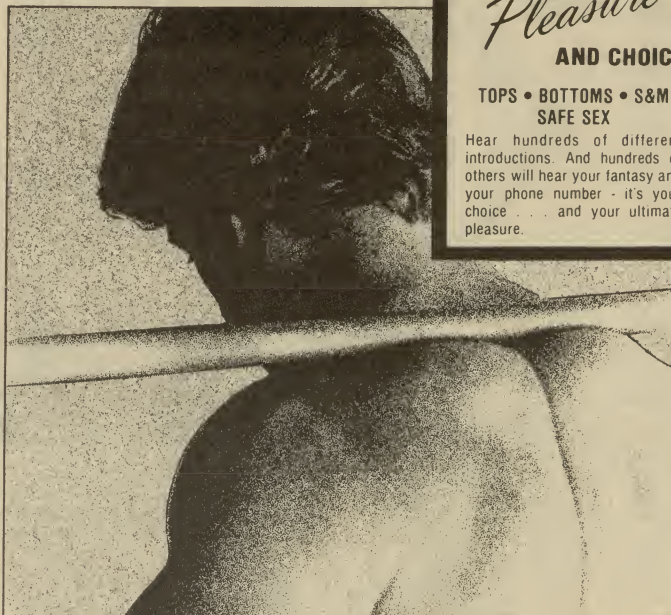
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SWIMMING & DIVING

Open Hand and Open Heart



Andrew Alden of the Tsunamis presents a check to Ruth Brinker of Project Open Hand (Photo: S. Savage)

by Hal Herkenhoff

Tsunami board representative Andrew Alder this week presented Open Hand founder Ruth Brinker with a check for over \$1,200 raised on the long-distance swimming efforts of the gay/lesbian Tsunami swim team in conjunction with the Masters Swimming Association's One-Hour Swim.

In addition to swimming as far as they could in the one-hour time period, the Tsunamis collected pledges from their friends and colleagues to donate to five various S.F. AIDS charities. The national One-Hour Swim is a team attempt to achieve the most total miles.

In all, at least 27 Tsunamis have turned in pledges totalling over \$3,700 that will go to Open Hand, the Shanti Project, AIDS Emergency Fund, Coming Home Hospice, and the S.F. AIDS Foundation.

In swimming a total of 1.9 miles each for this pledge drive, the Tsunamis managed to amass 51.9 miles towards the One-Hour Swim and their chosen charities. Led by Neil Hart, who individually raised \$519, the Tsunamis will also be able to donate \$504 to Coming Home Hospice, \$495 to S.F. AIDS Foundation, \$850 to Shanti Project, and \$650 to S.F. AIDS Emergency Fund.

Congratulations to all of the Tsunamis for this effort towards our community's well-being and support.

This weekend the Tsunami swimmers will wing it to sunny San Diego for the second annual International Gay/Lesbian Aquatics team championships at Allied Gardens outdoor pool. Over 35 members will try to im-

prove on last year's third-place team finish, when S.F. came in from behind the larger West Hollywood Swim Club and San Diego's Different Strokes swim team.

Tsunami coach Maria Pease reported that, this year, the expanded Tsunami team will have nearly the same number of swimmers to vie for the team trophy as West Hollywood and San Diego.

In 1987 only 11 S.F. swimmers were in San Diego, up against 30 to 40 swimmers each from the two Southern California teams, and predictably San Francisco lost all chance of challenging for the trophy during the depth-oriented relay events. San Diego came from behind to overtake West Hollywood for the inaugural title during the relay events. Don't expect it be that simple this time!

Board of directors chair Andrew Alder announced that all Tsunami members are encouraged to attend the open membership meeting on Saturday, April 9, at Empire Savings on Castro Street at 10:30 a.m. to discuss plans for the Gay Day Parade on June 26. Last year's planning was outstanding, and it certainly will take another good effort to match such a visual effect as their first appearance in the parade.

For information on joining the Tsunami Masters Swim Club, call 285-5659. Team practices are on Sundays at King Pool (3rd St. at Carroll) from 10 a.m. until noon and on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Coffman Pool (Visitation and Hahn Sts.) from 6 until 7:30 p.m.

Good luck to everyone in San Diego!

Poland and West Berlin with FOG

An 18-day tour of historic Poland and West Berlin by the Fraternal Order of Gays will depart May 19. Transatlantic air is on plush Lufthansa Airlines.

The itinerary includes Warsaw, Poland's capital, Lazienki Palace, Lowicz, center of Polish folklore, Zelazowa Wola, the birthplace of Frederic Chopin, Kazimierz, one of Poland's most beautiful cities, Lublin, Rzeszow, three nights at Zakopane, a favorite year-around resort in the heart of the Tatra Mountains, the beautifully preserved city of Krakow, an excursion to Auschwitz concentration camp, and a visit to Czestochowa to see the "Black Madonna" at

ancient Jasna Gora Monastery.

The tour of historic Poland ends with an exciting train ride from Warsaw to West Berlin. With four nights in West Berlin there will be plenty of time to enjoy the decadence of this vibrant city. The tour returns to San Francisco June 5.

The cost of \$2,025 includes air transportation, train, private motorcoach, first-class accommodations, most meals, and much more. For reservations or additional information contact FOG, 304 Gold Mine Dr., San Francisco, CA 94131; telephone 641-0999.

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
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